



Committee:

Janet Quarton
Fax No: 01546 606539
Email: janet.quarton@almac.co.uk
Sheila Clark
Fax No: 01382 858069
Valerie Piacentini

Committee Assistants: Helen White
Jean Sloan

October 1995

Newsletter 42

"The glory of creation is in its infinite diversity and the way our differences combine to create meaning and beauty."

Honorary Members: Gene Roddenberry, Majel Barrett, Jonathan del Arco, Richard Arnold, James Doohan, Michael Dorn, Siddiq El Fadil, Robert Justman, Walter Koenig, John de Lancie & Marnie Mosiman, Mark Lenard, Michael Okuda, Ernie Over, Nichelle Nichols, Susan Sackett, Marina Sirtis, Patrick Stewart, Rick Sternbach, George Takei, Guy Vardaman, Rupert Evans, Lorraine Kelly, Anne Page, Rick Parfitt, Bjo Trimble.

Hi. Welcome to another newsletter.

We apologise if you find more errors than usual in the newsletter this time. Valerie couldn't manage to get through to Janet's this weekend as she was dog sitting so Sheila has had to do all the proof-reading herself. Janet cries off proof-reading as she is still typing things up.

Well, where have you all been this last couple of months? We were beginning to think you weren't speaking to us. Even submissions for the postbag were down which is why we've been able to print a couple of longer letters without cutting them. Thanks to everyone who has sent things in. The rest of you - there is no excuse for sunbathing now, it's time to get back to the typewriter or computer. Let inspiration run riot (within limits!). We are holding some DS9 and Voyager articles until more people have seen these series. We particularly need articles, quizzes and crosswords on Classic Trek and TNG. Try to limit quizzes and crosswords on DS9 to the first two seasons.

Sheila was interviewed for hospital radio on

Sept 13 by member Simon Robinson, and answered questions on her involvement in Trek, Janet's friendship with Gene and IDIC. Simon left the phone link open so that she could hear more of the programme, but unfortunately it was fairly late and Cindy started nagging to get her already delayed late-night walk, so Sheila had to hang up, most reluctantly, before Simon's Trek programme finished. What she did hear she very much enjoyed.

LOCAL GROUPS

Thanks to everyone who has sent in local group info. If you attend a local group (i.e. any ST club or group which holds local meetings), which isn't listed at the end of the newsletter, please write to Janet with the following information:

Group name

Venue for meetings, times, dates etc.

Contact address where fans can write for info.

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS

The closing date for the next newsletter is November 8th.

PLEASE put your full name on all submissions (including individual disc files) - if you don't and it gets separated from your letter then we can't print it.

Our order of preference for receiving newsletter submissions is:

Email - send to Janet and she will try to confirm receipt within 2 weeks.
(Email - janet.quarton@almac.co.uk)

Computer disc - send to Janet. (ASCII text files on MS-DOS, Atari ST, Acorn or Amstrad PCW - SAE to Janet for details)

By letter or fax - send written postbag submissions, articles and reviews to Sheila (address on back page). Send news, cuttings, adverts and anything else to Janet.

Our thanks to Irene Ambrose, Nancy Bannerman, Jacqueline Comben, Nicole Comtet, Barbara Ellams, Valerie Herd, Ruth Kurz, Lyn Johnstone, Mark Mclean, Fiona McDonald, James O Donovan, Gloria Rigg, Sarah Rooke, Alan Stephen, Damon Wise, Mary von Heide, Edward Woo and anyone we have inadvertently forgotten to mention, for sending information and/or cuttings.

IDIC GUIDE DOG APPEAL

This week we received the following from Joyce Devlin, the Trek fan who bred Aero, Sadie and Kirk.

Dear IDIC,

I am sorry to have to report that guide dog Sadie has had to be withdrawn from the field.

This was through no fault of her own. Her owner was taken into hospital, and it is doubtful he will ever get home again.

Sadie was returned to Forfar to be retrained for someone else, but like many German Shepherds, she could not cope with kennel life and missed her owner badly (GSDs, if house dogs, hate being put into kennels, but if kennel dogs can cope with being brought in.) So Karen, one of the kennel staff, took her home with her, but the move from her owner to kennels had shaken her confidence and this problem showed

through as they tried to retrain her for someone else. (Blind people have different needs depending on where they live and what they do, so the dogs have to be trained to cope with different things.) So she was returned to her puppy walkers, whom she had adored.

This problem with GSDs is very common as they tend to be one-man dogs, and if they have bonded - ie accepted one person as theirs - that bond is hard to break. This was the case with Sadie. (It is not only the Guide Dogs Association who find this, but the police, prison, army, airforce etc; but that's the German Shepherd for you. It has one master only.)

On saying that, a note of consolation is that Sadie would still have been in the field if her owner had not taken ill. She was working well. Now that she is back with her puppy walkers, she will be able to teach the puppies they train by example, so in effect she is still being used by the Guide Dogs.

Yours sincerely, J Devlin.

BOOKS & ZINES FOR SALE. Since we won't be at another convention for a while we thought it would be a good idea to offer the second-hand books and zines for sale through the newsletter. It also gives those members who can't attend conventions a chance to buy. If you are interested send an SAE to Sheila and ask for the Guide Dog Appeal sales list.

Sheila took a load of stamps (£25 worth) to Forfar in early September, as well as the collecting box. It held £26.43, between Conundrum (thanks for rattling the box, Taruka!) and Sheila getting a donation from a neighbour in exchange for some second-hand golf balls of varying quality. (She's only a couple of miles from two golf courses, as the crow flies, and we think it's the crows who bring most of the balls, thinking they're eggs, drop them, and when they don't smash, abandon them; others are the result of people losing practice balls. She's forever finding lost balls while walking Cindy, especially in newly-harvested fields at this time of year.)

Unfortunately we don't get nearly as much for the stamps as we used to, but keep 'em coming! We need more than ever now to help

boost our accumulator card at Forfar.

USED STAMPS

Any American/Canadian members who would like to contribute used stamps can send them to Bill Hupe, 916 Lamb Rd, Mason, MI 48854-9554, USA and he will forward them to us along with a list of your names so that we can acknowledge them.

We would like to thank Frances Abernethy, Liz Aris, Neil Barrett, Claudia Baschke, Sheila Bedford, Kajsa Berg, A.Y. Bergers, John Berridge, Jennifer Blanchard, Annette Bohm, Jeremy Briggs, Lynne Buckley, Hallie Chase, Susan Clarke, Jill Clements, Susan Cooper, Alistair Craig, Charlotte Davis, Matthew Deegan, Francis Dejonckheere, Veronica Duthie, Tamy Eriskson, Feral, Fiona C Fletcher, Ian Forrester, Gary Fraser, Antje Freudenberg, Mark French, Antje Freudenberg, Eleanor Fryer, Vered Gilad (and Yehuda), Kathleen Glancy, Stuart & Lesley Halliday, Glyn Holland, David Houston, Bill Hupe, Miss M Huntley, Michael Johnson, Carol Kean, Patricia Keen, Brenda Kelsey, Lincoln Enterprises (Majel's assistant), Bill Lindsay, Barbara Luckas, Kimba, Jessica Lemmer, Vivien Little, Liz McGrory, Bill Murphy, Maria Nausch, Maureen Norton, James O Donovan, Barbara Pallor, Sabine Panzner, Gloria Rigg, Victoria Roberts, Sarah Rooke, Stephen Rothwell, Susan Sackett, Carla Salveta, Baerbel Schmidt, Margaret Sibbald, Jean Sloan, Jacqueline Smith, Raymond Spencer, Marcia Stanislawski,

Martin Stahl, Star Trek Association of Regina, Alexis Stokes, Helen Suker, Students' Awards Agency for Scotland, Helen Thurlow, Rachel Timms, Yvonne Toop, Jenny Turner, Dorothy Wallace, Linda Ware, Daniel van de Weile & the Beverlyophiles, Mary von Heide, Karin Wendt, Jan Wicks, Edward Woo, Linda Wood, Gratiennne Vandekerckhove and anyone we have inadvertently forgotten to mention, for donations of money, collectibles, and/or used stamps for the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association.

We can use all used stamps, whether British or Foreign. If possible please trim them, leaving "4" of envelope around the stamp.

We plan to post the next newsletter out around November 29th.

Janet, Sheila, Valerie 17/9/95

Could the lady who came into the shop in Hay on 29th August please get in touch, as her little boy left his Letterman book behind, and I'll send it on. Lesley Arrowsmith



If you would like to buy copies of Julie's cartoons see her advert in the For Sale column.



LATEST STAR TREK NEWS

compiled by Janet Quarton



• The 47th annual Emmy Awards

The winners of the 47th annual Primetime Emmy Awards were be announced during the September 10, 1995 telecast from the Pasadena Civic Auditorium. Awards in the creative arts categories were be announced during a black-tie banquet September 9, 1995 at the Pasadena Center Exhibition Hall.

ST:DS9 won an emmy award this for Best Makeup "Distant Voices".

ST: VOYAGER won two emmys, one for Best Title Score, that went to Jerry Goldsmith, and the other went to the episode "The Caretaker" for Best Visual Effects.

The nominations for the 47th annual Emmy Awards included:

DS9:

- Hairstyling ("Improbable Cause")
- Makeup ("Distant Voices")

Voyager:

- Graphic Design and Title Sequences
- Main Title Theme Music
- Cinematography ("Heroes And Demons")
- Costume Design ("Caretaker")
- Hairstyling ("Caretaker")
- Makeup ("Faces")
- Music Composition - "The Caretaker" 2-hour opener (Jay Chataway)
- Music Composition - "Heroes and Demons" (Dennis McCarthy)

• The ST:TNG episode "All Good Things" received a Hugo Award for Dramatic Presentation at Intersection, the World Science Fiction Convention, in Glasgow.

• Walter Koenig, Nichelle Nichols and George Takei guest on QVC (USA), the first time three of the cast have been on. Their appearance coincides with the 29th anniversary of Star Trek's premiere on NBC-

TV on September 8, 1966.

TV & SATELLITE

• BBC 2 have purchased the first two seasons of DS9 and intend to try and schedule DS9 in tandem with TNG year six later this year to emulate the American transmission pattern and to avoid continuity lapses.

BBC2 also have Voyager but their rights to it don't start until summer 1996.

The reason that there is a three-year delay in showing Star Trek on BBC2 is that the American distributors wanted to fully exploit the video market in this country before they would allow the programmes to be shown on television.

To quote Gillian Geering - "Pre-emption by satellite television and video windows is a simple fact of life these days. There is no point in the BBC taking King Canute as its role model: even if we had the resources to acquire exclusive rights in imported series, there is no guarantee that distributors would wish to assign them to us at the risk of alienating other broadcasting organizations. Prior transmission by Sky does not mean they were quicker off the mark, or more committed to any series."

[From letters Edward Woo received from the Gillian Geering, Programme Acquisition, BBC2 & BBC Skelton Transmitting Station, in July.]

• BBC 2 showed more of the animated episodes recently: (info Nigel Nixon)

- 10/7/95 Mudd's Passion
- 11/7/95 Eye of the Beholder
- 13/7/95 The Lorelei Signal
- 14/7/95 Once Upon a Planet
- 17/7/95 The Magicks of Magus II
- 18/7/95 Practical Joker
- 19/7/95 The Counter Clock Incident
- 21/8/95 The Jihad
- 22/8/95 How Sharper than a Serpent's Tooth

23/8/95 Albatross
 24/8/95 The Pirates of Orion
 25/8/95 BEM
 29/8/95 One of our Planets is Missing
 30/8/95 The Time Trap
 31/8/95 The Terratin Incident
 1/9/95 The Ambergris Element

• "Leonard Nimoy's Star Trek Memories" was shown on BBC2 on 10/7/95 when the Cricket finished early.

• Deep Space 9 - Sky One seems to have dropped DS9 after September 17th with 4 episodes of the 3rd season still to show. These episodes are Family Business, Shakaar, Facets and The Adversary.

• The Discovery Channel had the second of their Space Weeks, 18 - 24 Sept. One of the programmes they showed was The Science of Star Trek, a three part series on the technology featured in Star Trek

• Star Trek Voyager will debut on Sky One on Sunday 22nd October.

BBC - ST:ING screening dates.

Ep.	Title	Date Shown
227	Times Arrow Pt 2	21/6/95
228	Realm of Fear	19/7/95
229	Man of the People	26/7/95
230	Relics	30/7/95
231	Schisms	9/8/95
232	True Q	16/8/95
233	Rascals	23/8/95
234	A Fistful of Datas	30/8/95
235	The Quality of Life	6/9/95
236	Chain of Command I	13/9/95
237	Chain of Command II	20/9/95.

STAR TREK DEEP SPACE NINE

• Michael Dorn has now joined the cast of DS9, reprising his role as Worf. In the TV Guide 5/8/95, Dorn says: "I'm not coming up with story ideas or anything, I let the writers do that - but one thing that I guard

very closely is Worf's standoffishness, how he relates to everybody. The character never took easily to people, and he positively hates some of the members of this crew - he can't stand Odo or Quark, for example, and he's not too thrilled about interacting with the Bjorans either. Aside from the dynamic that Worf will bring to the show by just being there, his adjustment to the crew members will provide a lot of intrigue."

• In the USA as the new season for DS9 draws here, several cities have been alarmed by schedule changes! In Philadelphia, DS9 disappeared from the listings of the station carrying it, and it was a few tense days before fans learned that the UPN affiliate had picked up the show. But other cities have problems. Augusta is getting DS9 at 1am. Chicago saw it moved to 5pm Saturdays where it bumps heads with baseball games. Pittsburgh, Wednesdays at 10pm. Fridays at 10:30 pm in Albuquerque.

Star Trek: Deep Space Nine. Season 3 Broadcast Schedule.

Date = Date of satellite uplink.

Episode List-

Date	Prod Num	Title
30/9/95	73/74	718 The Way of the Warrior [2hr premiere]
07/10/95	75	475 Hippocratic Oath
14/10/95	76	476 Visitor
21/10/95	77	477 Indiscretion
28/10/95	78	478 Rejoined

EPISODE SPOILERS

718 - The Way of the Warrior. Directed by James L. Conway. Written by Ira Steven Behr & Robert Hewitt Wolfe. Guest Stars: Andrew Robinson as Garak, Penny Johnson as Kasidy Yates, Marc Alaimo as Gul Dukat, Robert O'Reilly as Gowron, J.G. Hertzler as Martok, Obi Ndefo as Drex, Christopher Darga as Kaybok and William Dennis Hunt as Huraga.

When the Klingon Empire ends its peace treaty with the Federation, Sisko must help Klingon Starfleet officer Worf decide where

his loyalties lie.

475 - **Hypocratic Oath.** Bashir and O'Brien are kidnapped (or crash) onto a Jem 'Hadar homeworld. They find some Jem 'Hadar there who are NOT addicted to the drug. As a matter of fact, the lead Jem 'Hadar wants to break away and go against the Dominion. The B story deals with Worf thwarting an investigation by Odo.

476 - **The Visitor.** Basic episode information: [Unofficial description] Jake Sisko visits the near and distant future when an experiment goes wrong. In the distant future, he is a writer. Cirroc Lofton plays all three "versions" of Jake.

477 - **Indiscretion.** This episode may have originally been entitled "Brother's Keeper". Guest Stars Tony Todd as Kurn. Basic episode information: Kira and Gul Dukat going off to investigate a ship full of missing Bajoran POW's from the Cardassian occupation. [Unofficial description] Kurn (Tony Todd) comes to the station to ask his brother to return to Kronos to fight on the side of the Klingons against Cardassia.

478 - **Rejoined.** This episode may have originally been entitled "Once Joined". Jadzia Dax is reunited with another joined Trill whose former host was involved with one of Dax's former hosts, but a Trill custom prohibits them from becoming reacquainted as well as they'd like.

- **POSSIBLE** storylines for future episodes in DS9's 4th Season from Robert Wolfe, writer/producer on DS9 in "Science Fiction Age Presents: Sci-Fi TV Fall Preview". (Everything in " " are direct quotes of Wolfe)

"We're going to see a possible *future* for the station and Sisko's life. *Technically* it's a time travel episode--sort of. Basically, it's a flash-forward to a possible future. We're going to see Sisko's future and Jake's future, and the people on the station, over forty or fifty years."

A third Crossover episode is planned. "The first one was so much fun that we *wanted* to do the second one--and we had a great time, so we're doing the third one. And

the fans like them, so I think we'll keep doing them."

"A Q episode once a year on The Next Generation was always fun to do. I think we'll be able to do an episode of that every year."

"We're going to do an episode about Odo finding another one of the shapeshifters who was sent out. It's still in its pod--a little lump of goo! We'll see how Odo reacts to being on the other side. He's always been very disparaging toward the scientist who poked and prodded him. We're going to put him on the other side of that coin."

"We're going to do a show with Kira on a Cardassian ship, and definitely do a show with Kira and Dukat down on Bajor and having an adventure down there."

"We're probably going to do a show with O'Brien and Keiko down on Bajor, too."

"So, we're going to do a husband-and-wife Indiana Jones-y adventure, down on Bajor. Also, a story putting the occupation to a rest--doing a capstone on that period with Kira and Dukat down on Bajor, for one last visit--not to the planet, but to the trauma of that time. Seeing the Cardassian side of it too. But we're going to do a lot off the planet, a lot away from the station."

"We'll be playing up the relationship between those two characters, and we'll be visiting that again--and Garak's political situation will continue to be somewhat...mysterious."

"We've got a fun show coming up for him [Odo] and Quark, where they go to Earth, and what that's like, how people react to them."

"And next year, we'll continue to explore Nog working on his Starfleet career."

"We're going to do a show with Bashir and O'Brien on a Jem'Hadar world, captured by them and having to deal with that. Colm is going to be going off for a while to do a movie after the first few episodes. We want to do that show early on, to give Colm a fun thing to do."

The following are Wolfe's comments on DS9's 4th Season...

The Dominion are going to be *the* major threat in the fourth season. "They're going to get even more aggressive in many ways, so we're going to up the stakes. We're going to

play with repercussions of shapeshifters loose in the Alpha Quadrant. We'll also be developing the Jem'Hadar, which is the military arm. We'll actually be seeing a little less of the Founders than we did last year; we were working to establish them as a presence. I think that we'll be seeing a little more--though it's early to tell--of the Jem'Hadar--the military scary guys."

[Wolfe was talking about "Past Tense I & II" and the grim situation Earth was in 2024] "That is going to be the theme of the fourth season: what would happen if things got a little grim around the Federation? What Sisko will do to make sure it doesn't get to the point where people are fighting over food, and humanity has to worry about things that can make us less than what we are in the twenty-fourth century; the fight to maintain the advances that we've won in the last 300 years that have passed since we saw those terrible camps in San Francisco."

STAR TREK VOYAGER

- Voyager's 2nd season premier, The 37's, finished no.1 in its time slot in Chicago, Los Angeles and six more of the biggest markets.
- Reports are that Captain Janeway will get a new hairstyle in Voyager's second season.
- "Entertainment Weekly" reported that John de Lancie will be back as Q in an upcoming Voyager episode. Apparently John DeLancie and Kate Mulgrew are close friends.

Star Trek: Voyager.
Season 1 Broadcast Schedule.

Date = Date of satellite uplink.

Eps	Date	UPN #	Prod	Title
16	28/08/95	STV201	120	The 37's
17	04/09/95	STV202	121	Initiations
18	11/09/95	STV203	117	Projections
19	18/09/95	STV204	118	Elogium
20	25/09/95	STV205	122	Non Sequitur
21	02/10/95	STV206	119	Twisted
22	09/10/95	STV207	123	Parturition

SPOILERS - Press Releases

STV201 - The 37's Written by Jeri Taylor & Brannon Braga. Directed by Jim Conway. Guest starring Sharon Lawrence as Amelia Earhart, David Graf as Noonan, James Saito as the Japanese Soldier, Mel Winkler as Jack Hayes and John Rubinstein as John Evansville.

When the Voyager crew finds an ancient artifact from Earth floating in space, their discovery leads them to the adventure of a lifetime on an uncharted planet--marking the first time a Starship has successfully landed on a planet in any "Star Trek" series.

After atmospheric disturbances force the crew to land Voyager on this mysterious planet, Captain Janeway leads an away team in search of the source of the SOS to be an old Earth aircraft. Upon further investigation, the team finds a massive chamber containing eight Earthlings in cryogenic units, one of whom is Amelia Earhart.

After releasing them from suspended animation, the Voyager crew comes under attack when a group of the planet's inhabitants mistake them for members of the Briori--an alien race which abducted more than 300 people from Earth in 1937 and brought them to this planet as slaves. It's learned that over time, the slaves revolted and killed the aliens. The eight surviving "37's" became part of the planet's history and the cryogenic chamber was their shrine. Since then, the descendants of the original 300 cultivated the planet and created a home much like Earth.

The crew of Voyager is invited to stay, and Janeway must face her greatest challenge as she allows each crew member the personal choice to stay behind and begin a life among these kindred humans.

STV202 - Initiations. Written by Kenneth Biller. Directed by Rick Kolbe. Guest starring Aron Eisenberg as Kar, Patrick Kilpatrick as Razik and Tim de Zarn as Haliz.

When First Officer Chakotay borrows a Shuttlecraft to perform the Pakra, a solitary Indian ritual commemorating his father's death, he inadvertently drifts into Kazon-Ogla territory and becomes the target of a Kazon youth attempting to earn his Ogla warrior name by killing the Federation

enemy.

Striking back, Chakotay disarms and destroys the Kazon ship, but not before rescuing the young boy named Kar—the only surviving lifeform—by transporting him aboard the Shuttlecraft. Soon, the two are pulled via tractor beam aboard a larger Kazon vessel sent to investigate the explosion. Led by Razik and Haliz, the Kazon-Ogla hold Chakotay prisoner during which he learns that because Jar has failed in his first mission, he doesn't earn his name and is sentenced to die . . . by Chakotay's hands.

Meanwhile, fearing their missing comrade is in danger, the Voyager crew—with Kes and Neelix providing their expertise on Kazon—sets out to find Chakotay.

STV203 - Projections. Written by Brannon Braga and directed by Jonathan Frakes. Guest starring Dwight Schultz as Lieutenant Barclay.

The Doctor receives information that Voyager has suffered a massive Kazon attack and that most of the crew has abandoned ship, so he ventures from Sickbay, via remote holo-projection system, to aid those still on board.

Once he's on the ship's near-deserted Bridge, The Doctor must determine what is and what is not reality. Much to his confusion and counter to his program, The Doctor shows human life signs when, during a struggle with a Kazon warrior, he experiences injury and pain. He meets Lieutenant Barclay, learns of Dr. Lewis Zimmerman, the holo-engineer who wrote his medical holographic program and amazingly, discovers that The Doctor has a wife - Kes. He's in a state of disbelief when Barclay tells him he must completely destroy Voyager.

STV204 - Elogium. Story by Jimmy Diggs & Steve J. Kay, teleplay by Kenneth Biller and Jeri Taylor. Directed by Rick Kolbe. Guest starring Nancy Hower as Ensign Clarke, Gary O'Brien and Terry Correll as crew members.

Aggressive space-dwelling lifeforms attach themselves to the Starship, creating an electrophoretic field. The occurrence increases Kes' metabolic activity and

accelerates her reproductive process, causing her to prematurely enter the elogium - the time of life when Ocampo bodies become fertile. However, the elogium occurs only once, so if Kes is ever going to have a child, it must be immediately

Before making his decision whether or not he will father Kes' child, a bewildered Neelix seeks the advice of Tuvok. Meanwhile, while considering how long it may take to get the ship home, Janeway wonders if it may be necessary for the crew to start having children to provide the next generation of personnel.

STV205 - Non Sequitur. Written by Brannon Braga, Directed by David Livingston. Guest starring are Louis Giambalvo as Cosimo, Jennifer Gatti as Libby, Jack Shearer as Admiral Strickler and Mark Kiely as Lieutenant Lasca.

Ensign Harry Kim is confused when he awakens to find himself on Earth - in 24th century San Francisco - working as a design specialist a Starfleet Engineering and engaged to be married to Libby. When he accesses his service records, they mysteriously indicate that he was never a crew member aboard USS Voyager.

Although he has longed to be with Libby, his sense of duty compels him to return to the reality he knows - and the Delta quadrant. Soon the dazed Kim meets Cosimo, an alien in the guise of a local shop owner, who explains that a temporal anomaly in the space-time continuum has transported him to an altered reality. Kim learns that if he recreates the circumstances that brought him to Earth and then flies into the time-stream, there's a chance he might be able to transport back to his reality. Upon further investigation, Kim finds information on his onetime fellow crew member Tom Paris which indicates that Paris is a convicted traitor and alleged Maquis sympathizer. Kim travels to Marseille, France, to track down the recently paroled, drunk and dishevelled Paris who claims he never made it aboard Voyager. Before long, Starfleet personnel believes Kim is a Maquis spy and puts him under house arrest.

STV206 - Twisted. Written by Arnold Rudnick & Rick Hosek, teleplay by Kenneth

Billar. Directed by Kim Friedman. Guest starring Judy Geeson as Sandrine, Larry Hankin as Gaunt Gary, Tom Virtue as Baxter, Terry Correll as the crewman.

A spatial distortion phenomenon occurs not only in space but inside the ship as well, changing Voyager's structural layout and completely disabling it. As Voyager is compressed and twisted by this unknown anomaly, the crew must work frantically to stop it.

Captain Janeway is incapacitated when she comes in contact with the strange force and soon, Neelix winds up missing. Meanwhile, the rest of the crew is trapped in a maze on Deck Six and the Doctor is confined to Sandrine's Bar as the force pushes inward, closing in on them.

STV207 - **Parturition**. Written by Tom Sollosi and directed by Jonathan Frakes.

When Kes spends free time with a smitten Tom Paris, Neelix is overcome with jealousy and instigates a messy fight with the Lieutenant. In the aftermath, the Captain sends the sparring pair on a shuttle mission to an M-Class planet to replenish food supplies. When their craft encounters an interference pattern, they crash on the planet. Seeking cover from trigemic vapours, Paris and Neelix seal themselves inside a cave and then discover they have company there - an embryonic pod which hatches an alien baby, a repro-humanoid being. They must work together to sustain the newborn - and preserve each other's life when its angry mother approaches, on "Star Trek".

Other upcoming Voyager episodes:

"Persistence of Vision" - Voyager's crew suffer mass hallucination caused by an alien wanting control of the ship.

"Maneuvers" - Kazon sects are brought together against the Voyager... This episode features the return of Cullah and Seska who are at the heart of the problem to steal more Federation Technology to upset the balance of power. Will Chakotay's suicide run help Voyager escape?

"Tattoo" is about Chakotay's past. This is some information obtained from Garrett

Wang himself...(from America On-Line)

Roxann Biggs-Dawson told a convention crowd in Philadelphia that B'Elanna had an upcoming love scene. Rumour is that it's with Tom Paris.

STAR TREK 8

• It was rumoured in the British press at the end of August that Michael Jackson has signed to appear in the next ST film and that he would play a 'warrior'. Fans on the Internet have been speculating as to whether this means a Klingon or a Borg. Jackson's publicist has been quoted as saying that Jackson requested to be included.

Per Horizon Conventions in Portland, Oregon on 8/19/95:

1. 2nd TNG movie is in "pre-production" now.
2. Script to be "cast" by early September.
3. Planned release date is Thanksgiving-Christmas '96 time frame.
4. Brent Spiner has NOT signed yet, appears to be in negotiations stage.

MISC

A letter campaign has been organised to try and persuade Paramount to either make a film or TV Special with all the original cast to celebrate Star Trek's 30th Anniversary in 1996. Without the original series there would be no TNG, DS9 or Voyager, so write to Paramount and tell them you want to see the original series receiving recognition on its 30th Anniversary.

Direct your comments to Sherry Lansing and Rick Berman and do not put Star Trek on the envelope. Address your letter to them at Paramount Pictures Corp., 5555 Melrose Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90038, USA. Fax: 1-213-956-1686.

• **Leonard Nimoy** - It is rumoured that Leonard Nimoy will undertake a press tour in the US (October 13/14) and a high-profile publicity tour in England (dates currently

unknown) to promote his new book I AM SPOCK. them.

Leonard Nimoy is to do a signing on Friday 24th November 1995 at Easons Bookshop, Castlecourt, Belfast from 1 - 2 PM to promote his new book! (info Damon Wise)

• Trekkers audition for Museum Guide positions.

The London Science Museum has advertised for 15 to 20 guides to show people around the exhibition, which will centre on the cult television series and films.

"Calling all 'Trekkers' for the best job opportunity on Earth," read the museum's job advertisement. It said it wanted fans of the television and film series, who often design or buy their own "Star Trek" uniforms, to dress up to act as guides at its forthcoming Star Trek exhibition.

The applicants, who came from all over Britain, started queuing up outside the museum at four o'clock in the morning.

"The phone has been ringing off the hook," said Chrissy Cottle of the museum's press office.

The guides, who will be fully trained and given costumes to wear, will work for £4.60 an hour for the five-month run of the exhibition.

Cottle said the exhibition would use Star Trek to show how science has progressed.

"Science fiction often turns into science fact," she said. "Things like mobile phones, non-invasive surgery — they were all on the series before they became real."

The exhibition, set to run from Oct. 11 to February next year, will include sets and props from the television series and seven feature films, including Captain Kirk's chair.

Damon Wise reports that the classic bridge will no longer be part of the exhibition as Paramount has requested this back. Most likely, for their Paramount Park in Nevada.

• Star Trek Comics to be discontinued - Star Trek is moving. Both DC and Malibu have lost the licensing rights to the Star Trek comics, and will end publishing of the line of comics at the end of the year. Paramount may intend to re-launch the Star Trek titles in a Paramount Comics line, or may re-license

• According to The Guardian (10/8/95), a scientist at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratories in America, Tom McEwan, has come up with a new invention based on radar, MIS (microwave impulse radar) which has many potential uses. It sounds as if the basic idea was triggered by existing equipment that uses heat to pinpoint earthquake survivors, etc, but it has wider applications. In medical diagnosis it can monitor the motion of the heart muscle, enabling an observer to see the heart beating; and it can pinpoint a person though "feet of concrete" - in a recent trial, it could detect a person breathing through 3 feet of concrete. Other uses are being investigated, as is the development of a similar unit based on laser.

Advantages over existing technology are cost and size; at the moment the unit is 1.5 inches square and costs \$10.

• Real Tricorders!! Vital Technologies Corporation is launching the first official functioning component of STAR TREK technology! The TR-107 Tricorder(R) Mark 1 will be publicly launched in early August, 1995, and will play a role in the upcoming 30th Anniversary of STAR TREK.

As detailed in the ST:ING Technical Manual, the Tricorder Mark 1 can sense the environment, as well as compute and communicate data.

The first 10,000 units of the Tricorder(R) Mark 1 will be a Limited Edition version, and all Tricorder(R) Mark 1 units will have the following functional capabilities:

1. Two mode weather station: measure ambient *temperature* and *Barometric Pressure*. These two features allow the user to perform basic weather prediction.
2. *Electromagnetic Field (EMF) Meter*. An extremely accurate EMF meter allows user to sense potentially dangerous EMF radiation. Common sources include microwaves, power lines, televisions, computer monitors, and electric motors.
3. Light sensing with the *Colorimeter* and *Light Meter*. Allows user to accurately measure the intensity and colour of light from an object. Applications include colour matching (i.e. paint chips with furniture); photography, chemical analysis (with

optional colour reagents). The colorimeter is more accurate than standalone units costing more than \$1200.

4. *Stardate Clock & Timer*. Allows user to track elapsed time time of day, date, and covert Earth calendar instantly into Stardate.

5. *Onboard Data Storage*. Allows user to store readings for future reference.

6. *Optional PC Data Link*. Allows user to download information from the Tricorder to a PC or upload custom programs from a PC to the Tricorder.

7. *CD-Rom Technical Manual*. Fully animated and easy to use technical manual for both MacIntoshes and IBM compatibles. Explains how to use the Tricorder and has many sample experiments and applications.

Limited Edition. Only 10,000 numbered Tricorder Mark 1's will be produced, each in their own distinctive package with a certificate of authenticity.

- **Gargoyles 'Trek** - According to "The Insider" on page 6 of the July 17, 1995 issue of the industry trade 'Electronic Media', the Disney cartoon "Gargoyles" will have some more STAR TREK stars next season.

Kate Mulgrew will play the scientist Anastasia Renard and the Queen of the Fairies Titania. Brent Spiner, Michael Dorn, and Nichelle Nichols "will provide voices for no less than five recurring roles." LeVar Burton, Colm Meaney, Jonathan Frakes, and Marina Sirtis also have been on the show.

- **The Return of the Enterprise**. The nuclear aircraft carrier USS Enterprise returns to sea after the most complex overhaul ever undertaken. A common area on board will be dedicated to the Enterprise of Gene Roddenberry's Star Trek.

- **"Trekfast Telly"** Sun TV Super Guide 2/9/95. This article talks about the premier of Generations. It says that the number of stars who are major Trekkies is unbelievable. There were a whole load of celebrities giving it yahoo during the film. Jim Davidson who has done shows in front of thousands of people was very nervous when it came to meeting William Shatner.

Lorraine admits to "having a passion" for Klingons since she was a kid. She says that Spock is her favourite character.

- **"Astronomers predict faster than light space travel"** The Sunday Times 13/8/95.

Ian Crawford, an astronomer at University College London has written a report predicting that mankind will be able to travel faster than the speed of light. Ian Crawford believes not only that man will one day see stars at close quarters, but that we had better start preparing ourselves for the consequences, including contact with aliens.

His paper, *Some Thoughts On The Implications Of Faster-Than-Light Travel*, has been validated by independent referees in scientific community. Its publication coincides with the formation by British and American scientists of the Interstellar Propulsion Society (IPS) which is dedicated to finding a means of taking astronauts to the stars.

Crawford argues that modern physics may allow two possible ways around Einstein's theory. The first is to pass through 'wormholes'; the second is to use propulsion systems which distort space by compressing it in front of a space ship while expanding it behind. Such a system would effectively bend space creating a form of "warp drive".

- Viacom purchased a stake in software developer Looking Glass Technologies Inc. The company will develop several titles based on the Voyager series, the first slated to appear in 1996. (Variety)

- Viacom and its Nickelodeon team are joining forces with British Sky Broadcasting to launch a Paramount TV channel in the U.K. in November, sources said Tuesday.

The Paramount channel will broadcast via the Astra satellite in the evenings following Nickelodeon's U.K. service, a 50/50 joint venture between Viacom and BSkyB.

The schedule will be drawn from Paramount's TV library of past and current comedy and drama series, many never before seen on British airwaves. It will not include Paramount movies, already licensed to BSkyB's premium film channels.

The channel does not yet have a name, and the deal between Viacom and BSkyB has not been formally signed. It is understood that Viacom will be the majority shareholder. With only seven weeks to go until the proposed launch date it also is far from

certain the channel will bow on schedule.

The Disney Channel, the Playboy Channel and the Sci-Fi Channel all are planning to launch British services, and the AP/Dow Jones-backed European Business News will migrate its existing cable service onto Astra. (Variety - London)

• **Enterprising actors settle Trek dispute**

Four of the original "Star Trek" television series actors have settled a two-year-old dispute with Paramount studio over merchandise royalties and other matters, an attorney for the four said.

James Doohan, Walter Koenig, Nichelle Nichols and George Takei received a total \$1 million collectively, according to the Los Angeles Times.

Officials for Paramount, were not immediately available to comment.

"All I can say is the settlement was amicable," said John Lawrence Allen, the actors's attorney who is based in Carlsbad, Calif.

The settlement, which was reached in August, involves past claims against Paramount for the use of the actors's names and likenesses and future appearances by the four.

Allen said the actors's original contract called for the four to receive 2.5 percent of Paramount's gross revenues from marketing their images for the original 1960s television series and the films it spawned.

Retail sales of merchandise based on the original series and films totalled nearly \$2 billion, but the actors received only about \$85,000 between them, the Times reported.

Paramount receives a royalty of seven to 10 percent on sales of "Star Trek" goods, the Times said. (Los Angeles, Sept. 14 (Reuter)

ON LINE

• **Trek Comprehensive Newsgroup Listing**

The list also exist on WWW URL:

<http://www.pt.hk-r.se/~pt94ero/StarTrek/News.Groups.html>

Star Trek News Groups

- * alt.binaries.startrek
- * alt.doctor.bashir.grind.thrust.drool
- * alt.ensign.wesley.die.die.die

- * alt.fan.jadzia.dax.slug.slug.slug
- * alt.fan.major.kira.pant.pant.pant
- * alt.fan.q
- * alt.fan.surak
- * alt.fans.surak
- * alt.french.captain.borg.borg.borg
- * alt.lwaxana-troi.die.die.die
- * alt.sexy.bald.captains
- * alt.shared-reality.startrek.klingon
- * alt.starfleet.rpg
- * alt.startrek
- * alt.startrek.bajoran
- * alt.startrek.borg
- * alt.startrek.cardassian
- * alt.startrek.creative
- * alt.startrek.klingon
- * alt.startrek.romulan
- * alt.startrek.uss-amagosa
- * alt.startrek.vulcan
- * alt.sex.fetish.startrek
- * alt.tv.star-trek.ds9
- * alt.tv.star-trek.tos
- * alt.tv.star-trek.voyager
- * alt.wesley.crusher.die.die.die
- * finet.harrastus.startrek
- * finet.harrastus.startrek.spocks-hut
- * de.rec.sf.startrek
- * rec.arts.startrek
- * rec.arts.startrek.current
- * rec.arts.startrek.fandom
- * rec.arts.startrek.info
- * rec.arts.startrek.misc
- * rec.arts.startrek.reviews
- * rec.arts.startrek.tech
- * uk.media.tv.sf.startrek
- * zer.z-netz.freizeit.tv.startrek

• To subscribe to the European Star Trek List (trek@toppsi.gn.apc.org), send:
To: trek-request@toppsi.gn.apc.org
and in the main text
subscribe <name@host.end>
To post a message, send it to:
trek@toppsi.gn.apc.org
Send problems/comments to: wise@iol.ie

• **Some WWW Pages**

The Bajoran Archive is an encyclopedia of Bajoran information created and maintained by the Shakaar society. It is now fully accessible on the net by pointing your Web viewers at <http://www.csv.warwick.ac.uk/~suaap/bajarc/>

Video stills and audio for the upcoming Star Trek: Voyager Fall are available at <http://www.cdsnet.net/vidiot/UPN/upn01.html>

There is a new Q World Wide Web Page on the Internet. The pointer to this site is: <http://www.europa.com/~mercutio/Q.html>

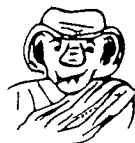
There is a Rules of Acquisition home page now on the Internet at <http://www.cs.odu.edu/~baker/rules.html>

Fans of Jennifer Lien, "KES", for a free web page, full of info in photos. web your way to: <http://www.freenet.hamilton.on.ca/~ac108/jen.html>

[Sources of information include Warp 10, Engage & Dateline Starfleet, rec.arts.startrek.current/info/fandom.]



MERCHANDISE



compiled by Janet Quarton

• UPCOMING BOOK RELEASES

- Sep TNG Make It So by Wess Roberts Hbk
DS9 12 The Laertian Gamble by Robert Sheckley
Voy 4 Violations by Susan Wright
Beyond Uhura by Nichelle Nichols pbk
Star Trek Creator, Authorised biography of Gene Roddenberry by David Alexander. pbk
- Oct Star Trek Federation by Reeves-Stevens
TNG 37 The Last Stand by Brad Ferguson
YA/TNG 8 Starfall by Brad Strickland
- Nov Art of Star Trek by Reeves-Stevens
TNG Crossover by Mike Friedman Hbk
VOY 5 Incident at Arbuk by John Betancourt
DS9 13 Station Rage by Diane Carey
- Dec To The Stars - autobiography by George Takei Trade
ST: TNG Blueprints by Rick Sternbach Trade
ST: GENERATIONS by Mike Friedman
ST:TOS 76 Demorra by Peter David
YA/TNG 9 Nova Command by Brad Strickland Minstrel

• TENTATIVE Pocket Books publishing schedule for 1996. This is all subject to change.

Note: YA = Young Adult, SFA = Starfleet Academy.

January ST:TOS#77 Twilight's End by Jerry

Oltion; ST:TNG#38 Dragon's Honor by Kij Johnson.

February ST:DS9#14 The Long Night by Smith/Rusch; ST:VGR#6 The Murdered Sun by Christie Golden; Minstrel ST:DS9YA#7 Gypsy World by Ted Pedersen

March ST:TOS The Ashes of Eden by William Shatner (Paperback); ST:TNG#39 Rogue Saucer John Vornholt

April ST:TOS The Return by William Shatner (Hardcover); ST:ALL The Klingon Book of Virtues by Marc Okrand; ST:VGR#7 Ghost of a Chance by McGraw/Garland; ST:DS9 Warped by K.W.Jeter (Paperback); Minstrel SFA#10 Loyalties by Barnes-Svarney

May ST:ALL The Last Conversation by Yvonne Fern (Paperback); ST:TNG#40 Possession by J.M.Dillard; ST:TOS#78 Q-Space by Greg Cox (Tentative)

June ST:ALL Inside Star Trek by Justman and Solo In Production; ST:VGR#8 Cybersong by S.N.Lewitt; ST:DS9#15 Wrath of the Prophets by David, Friedman, Greenberger; Minstrel ST:DS9YA#8 Highest Score by Kem Antilles In Production

July ST:TNG Kahless by Mike Friedman (Hardcover); ST:TOS#79 Invasion! Book I First Strike by Diane Carey; ST:TNG#41 Invasion! Book II The Soldiers of Fear by Smith&Rusch

August ST:TOS 1997 Calendar; ST:TNG 1997 Calendar; ST:DS9 1997 Calendar; ST:VOY 1997 Calendar; ST:ALL 1997 Day Calendar; ST:TOS II The Lost Series by Reeves-Stevens; ST:DS9#16 Invasion! Book III Time's Enemy

by L.A.Graf; ST:VGR#9 Invasion! Book IV
The Final Fury by Daffyd ab Hugh; Minstrel
ST:TOSYA#1 Untitled Spock by B&B
Strickland

September ST:TNG#42 Infiltrator by W. R.
Thompson; ST:TOS#80 The Joy Machine by
Theodore Sturgeon; Minstrel ST:TOSYA#2
Untitled McCoy by John Vornholt

October ST:VGR Mosaic by Jeri Taylor
(Hardcover); ST:DS9#17 Objective:Bajor by
John Peel; ST:VGR#10 Bless The Beasts by
Karen Haber; Minstrel ST:TOSYA#3 Untitled
Kirk Author to Come.

November ST:ALL Pop-Up Book by Charles
Kurtz; ST:TOS Anthology by Kevin Ryan,
Ed.; ST:TOS Crossover by Mike Friedman
(Paperback); ST:TNG#43 A Fury Scorned by
Sargent/Zebrowski

December ST:VIII Novelization; ST:DS9#18
Trial by Error Mark Garland ST:VGR#11 The
Garden Melissa Scott; Minstrel ST:TNG YA
ST:VIII Novelization; Minstrel ST:SFA#11
Band on the Run by John Vornhol

- **Make It So** (PB \$22) by Weiss Roberts,
Ph.D, and Bill Ross is a book that distills the
leadership qualities of Picard into a primer
for modern-day Terrans.

Roberts uses as his narrative launching
point the events of the episode, "Coming of
Age", in which Picard was invited to serve as
Starfleet Academy's superintendent but
elected to stay aboard the Enterprise.

The author extends the concept, having
Picard offer words of wisdom to the next
generation by writing a leadership journal for
Academy cadets.

In chapters with titles such as "Focus",
"Urgency", "Politics" and "Resilience",
Roberts and Ross use "Next Gen" adventures
to teach readers the benefits of workplace
communication, teamwork and ethics.
(High Trek 1/9/95)

• VIDEO UPDATE

CIC provisional release dates:

- Vol. 1.7 October 9th
- Cathexis/Faces
- Vol. 1.8 October 23rd
- Jetrel/Learning Curve
- Vol. 1.9 October 23rd
- Eloquin/Projections

- Vol. 1.10 November 6th
- Twisted/The 37's
- Dec 4th - The Caretaker (collector's
edition)

There is a rumour that this has been
cancelled.

- Dec 4th - Star Trek Movies 1-7 Box Set
- Star Trek Generations (sell-
through release)

ST: Voyager volume 1.1 has been released on
video with a rrp of £12.99 but it can be found
on sale for £10.99 at Virgin and HMV.

• CD ROMS

STAR TREK OMNIPEDIA from Simon and
Schuster Interactive. This CD-ROM is based
on the Star Trek Encyclopedia (by Michael
Okuda, Denise Okuda, and Debbie Mirek)
and the Star Trek Chronology (by Michael
and Denise), is now available in the US \$ UK.
Prices vary but Virgin had it at £34.99.

The CD-ROM contains updated material
beyond that in the hardcopy editions, and
features lots of multimedia elements. S&SI
also plans to issue update disks to keep the
product current.

The following is extracted from a message
posted by Mike Okuda on AOL's Star Trek
forum on 8/9/95.

"Simon and Schuster Interactive is hard
at work on a Klingon CD-ROM project. They
probably wouldn't appreciate us saying too
much at this point, but they've done over two
weeks of shooting on the Paramount lot for
this project, and they've involved several Star
Trek writers. Also involved is Klingon
language inventor Marc Okrand. We haven't
seen anything final, but the stuff we have
seen is extremely cool. By the way, the live-
action scenes were directed by Jonathan
Frakes, and much of the behind-the-scenes
crew of Star Trek Voyager and Star Trek:
Deep Space Nine worked on this project.

Viacom Interactive (I'm not sure if this is
the actual name of the company) is in
production on a CD-ROM game based on
Star Trek Deep Space Nine. Again, we've not
seen a final version of this, but the art we've
seen shown is very cool. They've had a
photo crew perform extensive photo-
documentation of the sets to help ensure the

authenticity of the product."

• **1995 HALLMARK Star Trek Christmas Ornaments.** There are four this year: The Romulan War Bird; an ornament of Picard (standing in HoloDeck Arch); Kirk (sitting in command chair) and a 3-Piece Mini set of ships.

The Romulan ship is lighted, so more expensive. The other ornaments are more in the price range of your typical ornament shopper.

• **THE CITY ON THE EDGE OF FOREVER**
What *really* happened? Who *really* did the final produced script? How did the original script come to be, what was in it (and almost as important, given rumours, what *wasn't* in it), and what do those most directly involved have to say about it?

For the first time, you'll hear directly not only from Harlan Ellison but also from Leonard Nimoy, Peter David, DeForest Kelley, Walter Koenig, D.C. Fontana, Melinda Snodgrass and George Takei...not in interviews, but in essays they have themselves written on the subject, for publication for the first time.

A regular trade hardcover edition will be available starting December 1st, at a price of \$25.

• William Shatner's album **Transformed Man** (1968) and Leonard Nimoy's album **Mr. Spock's Music From Outer Space** (1967), are being released on Varese Vintage Records in the US in October. Leonard's album also features 5 tracks from the follow-up album **Two Sides of Leonard Nimoy**. The suggested list price for both CDs is \$12.98 each.

MAGAZINES

• **STARLOG** 218 September 1995. Includes an interview with Denise Crosby.

• **STARLOG** 219 October 1995. Includes an article about Michael Dorn joining the cast of DS9. There is also an article on the film Amanda and the Alien. Michael Dorn plays one of Mallory's assistants. There are some pictures of Michael Dorn from the film.

• **STAR TREK VOYAGER** No. 3 Aug. 1995 (Starlog) Contains articles on: Ethan Phillips (Neelix), Jennifer Lien (Kes), Ken Biller (Executive Story Editor) plus episode reports on Emanations, Prime Factors, State of Flux, Heroes and Demons, Cathexis.

• **STAR TREK VOYAGER** No. 4 Oct. 1995 (Starlog) Contains articles on: Michael Piller (co-creator), Jay Chattaway (composer), Dennis McCarthy (composer), Naren Shankar (writer) plus 1st season checklist and episode reports on Faces, Jetrel, Learning Curve

• **TV ZONE** 69 August 1995. Includes an article on Robert Legato, special effects supervisor on TNG.

• **TV ZONE** 70 September 1995. Includes an interview with Richard Poe who has played the Cardassian Gul Evrek in TNG, DS9 and Voyager; an interview with Ethan Phillips, Neelix in Voyager; a short article on Jennifer Lien, Kes in Voyager.

• **TV ZONE PSI-FI SPECIAL #18** Includes articles on the TNG episode Violations and Walter Koenig in Babylon 5.

• **ST:TNG POSTER BOOKS**

Issue 88 - Article on Dwight Schultz plus episode guides to 2nd season and Bloodlines.
Issue 89 - Season 7 Overview plus episode guides to 3rd season and Emergence.

• **STARBURST** 204 August 1995. Contains part 2 on an interview with Marina Sirtis.


• **STARBURST** 205 Sept. 1995. Contains an interview with Adam Nimoy who directed the TNG episodes Rascals and Timescape.

• **STARBURST STAR TREK SPECIAL #25** Contains interviews with DeForest Kelley; Tim Russ; LeVar Burton and Marc Scott Zicree, writer of First Contact; plus episode guides to DS9's 3rd and Voyager's 1st seasons.

• **STAR TREK Monthly** No. 6 Titan. This issue includes news, books, videos and merchandise; articles on DS9, ST Voyager, Leonard Nimoy, Vulcans, Robin Curtis,

Robert Butler (Director of The Cage) plus a 21 page Classic Trek Comic Strip.

• **STAR TREK Monthly No. 7 Titan.** This issue includes news, books, videos and

merchandise; articles on DS9, ST Voyager, Avery Brooks, Nana Visitor, Rene Auberjonois, CT Season 1 episodes guide plus a 17 page Classic Trek Comic Strip. 



Cast & Crew NEWS



• Fan Mail - Try actors' clubs first, especially with gifts! Mail sent to Paramount may not reach addressee. When writing to an actor always enclose a self-addressed envelope and an International Reply Coupon (available at main Post Offices).

Send TNG/DS9 mail to Paramount Pictures, 5555 Melrose Avenue, Los Angeles CA 90038, USA.

Send Classic/Movie Mail to Lincoln Enterprises, POB 691370, West Hollywood, CA 90069, USA.

Exceptions:

Nichelle Nichols, c/o Jim Meechan, AR-WAY Prod., 22647 Ventura Bl, #121, Woodland Hills, CA 91364, USA.

Grace Lee Whitney, POB 69, Coarsegold, CA 93614, USA.

Robert Justman, POB 491008, Los Angeles, CA 90049-9008, USA

• **Majel Barrett Roddenberry** was bestowed with the 1995 Humanist Arts Award. (Gene Roddenberry also won this award back in 1991).

• **Robert Beltran**, Chakotay of Voyager, has been lined up as grand marshall for San Jose's Christmas season Holiday Parade downtown. Beltran, no stranger to these parts, worked with Luis Valdez and El Teatro Campesino before blasting off into TV space.

• **LeVar Burton** guest stars on the Deadly Games episode, The Boss. Jackal reappears with Mr. Metcalk (LeVar Burton), the deadly pink slip-shooting boss from hell.

During July LeVar was working on the film "Yesterday's Target", a sci fi action thriller for Showtime. "I play a psychic, the villain," Burton explains. "It's been great for me

because I don't get to play too many villains.

The film also stars Malcom McDowell and Daniel Baldwin. "Malcolm is also a villain in this," Burton says. "It's been great to work with him again because we did a whole torture sequence together in 'Generations' that didn't make the theatrical version.

"So we have some unfinished business and we really take care of it here."

Burton also recently worked on an episode of Leonard Nimoy's upcoming UPN series, Deadly Games. He portrays another bad guy, The Boss.

The CBS series, Christy, the cast of which Burton joined late last year, has not been renewed. (info High Trek 28/7/95)

• **Denise Crosby** has recently completed a pilot called "Love Is Strange" in which she plays a ghostly ex-girlfriend who hangs around in the after life because she is obsessive about this guy. She possesses his new girlfriend and all sorts of weird Twilight Zone things go on.

• **James Doohan** - Speaking at a convention in July, James Doohan told an audience that he would be checking into a hospital in August for arterial bypass surgery to correct a circulatory problem in his legs.

• **Siddiq El Fadil's** credits for the 4th season of DS9 will read 'Alexander Siddiq'.

Siddiq's Uncle (Sadiq Al Mahdi, the deposed Prime Minister of Sudan) was imprisoned for speaking out against the military regime. Sid's uncle is now free.

Aug 26 (Reuter) - Sudan on Saturday released former prime minister Sadeq al-Mahdi who was given a hero's welcome at

his hometown of Omdurman, government sources said. Al-Mahdi was deposed in 1989 and has been detained several times since then. He was last arrested on May 16 and accused of involvement in an alleged anti-government plot. His release came shortly after an announcement by Sudanese President Lieutenant-General Omar al-Bashir that all political prisoners in Sudan would be freed. (c) Reuters Limited 1995.

• **Whoopi Goldberg** is among the honorees of the 1995 Diversity Awards from the Multi-Cultural Motion Pictures Awards Association. The third annual Multi-Cultural Awards will be held in Beverly Hills on Oct. 10.

Whoopi Goldberg is filming, with co-star with Lisa Ann Walter, in "Eddie" for Disney's Hollywood Pictures.

• **DeForest Kelly** and his wife, Carolyn, celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary in September. In a telephone interview for High Trek (11/8/95) DeForest says that he decided to pass up on Generations because he didn't feel that Spock and McCoy's role was large enough. He didn't want to be in the film, "just for the sake of being there".

DeForest did see Generations and thought they did an excellent job. "It was kind of fun for me to see Bill, Walter and Jimmy." "As opposed to a lot of the criticism Bill got, I thought he gave the film an emotional lift."

Since skipping Generations DeForest has been at home spending time with his wife and their 88-year-old turtle, Myrtle. he still writes poetry, listens to music, supports animal-related causes and answers fan mail.

• **Walter Koenig** will be playing psi cop Bester for the third time on 'Babylon 5' in "Dust to Dust" which is to be production number 306 according to the series creator J. Michael Straczynski. His previous episodes as Bester were "Mind War" and "A Race Through Dark Places."

• **Leonard Nimoy** is negotiating with Paramount to put out a special "Nimoy's Notes" videotape edition of the 79 original Star Trek episodes, to be released in 1996.

• **Robert O'Reilly** (Gowron) guested at Irecon 5 on September 16th/17th. Robert's ancestry, besides being a Klingon, is 100% Irish. Says Robert, "although my family has been in the U.S. since the 1890's we have never lost touch with our people".

The Reillys and Kiernans are from Longford, and Robert has visited them on many occasions, including a special trip for the ordination of a second cousin, Patrick, in 1988.

Both sides of the family have been travelling back and forth between Ireland and America since the 1920's. "It's a lot of fun having relatives in another country, and we Yanks, as you call us are proud of our Irish ancestry. Every time I arrive in Ireland I immediately feel at home".

Robert's mothers side of the family immigrated to America in the early 1840's, and still in the family's possession are letters sent to them from Ireland, telling of a terrible blight on the potato crops and warning their son not to return home until it was over.

• **Ethan Phillip's** real name is "John". The "Ethan" name had to be inserted because of some union rule.

The Screen Actors Guild (SAG) won't let two actors use the same name. If a new actor's name is the same as some other actor, the newcomer has to do something like use his middle name, add an initial, or adopt a totally different "stage name" for professional purposes.

• **Dwight Schultz** (Lt. Barclay on TNG) mentioned that he is appearing in "Deadly Games", Leonard Nimoy's new series for UPN which starts this fall. The series is about video game characters who come to life, most of them villains, and features Christopher Lloyd (Kruge in STIII) as a character called the Jackal.

Schultz plays another villain on the show, a late-night TV motivational speaker, who apparently moves from level to level in the game by eating baloney sandwiches! He did not say whether his role is a regular role, a recurring one, or just a guest-star appearance. He did say that LeVar Burton and Brent Spiner have already shot episodes guest-starring as other villains.

• **Brent Spiner** - Brent appears in the 20th Century Fox film "Independence Day", a big disaster movie which was recently filming in Wendover, Nevada. The film is about the end of the world. Brent plays an Air Force doctor and comes in 3/4 of the way through the movie. He says it's a great part.

The movie is set to open in US theatres on 4 July 1996. Along with Brent, the movie will star Will Smith, Jeff Goldblum, Bill Pullman, Randy Quaid, Judd Hirsch, Mary McDonnell, Harry Connick Jr., Robert Logia and Harvey Fierstein.

• **William Shatner** - In an interview with Bill in the July 2 issue of the Philadelphia Inquirer it is mentioned that he has just completed a 30-page outline for the next book in his projected Trek trilogy. This one, entitled 'The Fires of Olympus', is due out next year and apparently brings Kirk back from his death in Generations. Shatner also mentions that he pushed the story as a possible movie to Paramount.

William Shatner joins Barbara Eden and Morgan Fairchild in "Dead Man's Eden," a CBS miniseries due in the US this fall. Also, William Shatner was shooting footage in June for "TekWar: The Game," a CD-ROM game scheduled for release in September.

A Canadian Company is reportedly looking into taking over William Shatner's TekWar and continue the series.

William Shatner will be directing a low budget sci-fi flick, "Virtual Hero".

• **Patrick Stewart** will star as Prospero in "The Tempest" on Broadway for a 12-week run beginning Oct. 10. Broadhurst Theatre, NYC.

Patrick is rumoured to have signed on to play Mr. Freeze in the next instalment of the Batman features.

Patrick Stewart stars in an ABC Family Movie version of Oscar Wilde's "The Canterville Ghost", which recently finished filming in London. The movie will air sometime during the 95-96 US TV season.

Stewart plays the "most frustrated ghost

in all of England". Repeated attempts to frighten the American family that has taken up residence in his castle away with reappearing bloodstains and howls in the night simply have no effect. Neve Campbell ("Party of Five") plays the family's teenaged daughter who finds the ghost more to be pitied than to be feared.

The film Jeffrey in which Patrick plays a homosexual has received good reviews in the States. Some fans have disapproved of Patrick playing a gay but Patrick says, "I don't choose roles wondering whether fans will be shocked or pleased." He adds that Jeffrey is "a 20th-century love story" that will appeal to a wide audience.

Patrick, who is divorced, was himself startled by the reaction to his playing a gay character. "In interviews, to my surprise, it has been put to me that there's a general body of opinion that I might be gay," he says. "I'm not, as far as I am aware."

• **George Takei** - HBO is introducing a new line of cartoon programs for the fall season under the name of "Happily Ever After." The promo for one of them, which indicates that these cartoons are somewhat like music videos, is for a version of "The Emperor's New Clothes"--the title is something like "Fantastic Fabric". The voice talent for this one includes George Takei.

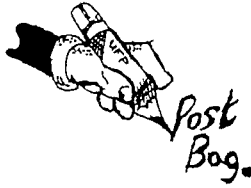
George Takei is in the Oliver Stone film "Nixon" as Le Duc Tho of South Vietnam.

• **Wil Wheaton** will play the monster in "Snitches" with Rager Hauer as the mad scientist.

[Sources of information include P.S.A.S., High Trek, rec.arts.startrek, current/infofandom, Compuserve SF Media Forum, Warp 10, Engage & Dateline Starfleet]

CONGRATULATIONS TO ANNE MacKENZIE

Anne has left her job at Grampian Television to take up a new job with the BBC. Anne will host Good Morning Scotland three mornings a week and TV's Reporting Scotland one evening a week.



We welcome your letters of comment and discussion for this section on the understanding that they may be edited for length or content at our discretion.

Some pointers: When referring to anything in a previous n/l make it clear what you are talking about for those who do not have that newsletter.

Keep your letters as short as possible - a maximum of 500-550 words. If you find this impossible consider whether you should be writing an article instead. As letters may be edited for length, if there is something you would prefer us not to cut please indicate this.

We encourage active discussion, but please try to avoid negative and aggressive letters. If you make a request which requires members to write to you please give your address.

Keep letters on a separate sheet from other submissions and put 'for postbag'.

You might find it useful to use the following smiley symbols occasionally to indicate that your comment is not to be taken too seriously.

- :-) Basic smile
- ;-) Winky smile
- :-(Frowning smile

• Sheila Clark - Dundee

To Martin Helsdon (P 19) - I accept that the Cardassians have been mentioned once or twice, but I still maintain that we were never told what started the war with them or how long it had gone on. Ensign Ro was, I think, the first episode that went into any detail about the Cardassians, and that was about the Cardassian occupation of Bajor; and the conflict was emphasised from then on.

To Lesley Arrowsmith (P 25) - I think there are several ways to describe the list of

'basic plots'. Now you mention it, I've seen that list you gave. There's also the version that consists of Crime, Romance, Loss, Exploration... The list Nigel found doesn't *seem* to include all of yours - they all seem to be versions of man against man or man against himself. I've also somewhere seen or been told about a book that is supposed to list the definitive variations on the basic plots, and that came to about 39 if I remember correctly. Whatever, the total number of possible plots is certainly pretty small.

To Marcia Stanislawski (P 35) - Re people with similar names. How right you are! As a teacher I once had two unrelated children called Lynn Smith in my class... one was a girl, the other a boy...

To Edward Woo (P 40) - Re Tarchannen III. The entire storyline there strikes me as one of the not-properly-thought-through ideas that we seem to be getting altogether too often since Gene died. Logically, the inhabitants had to have some method of procreating that was not dependent on star-hopping visitors just happening along; star-hopping visitors not being exactly thick on the ground. That being so, how come they could adapt to - well, parasiting is as good a word as any - any alien race that just happened to land there? I wouldn't have expected them to be compatible, but then there wouldn't have been a story. If, however, they were indeed the parasites they appeared to be - however they had evolved - then Picard was right to warn other space-faring races. There is, after all, nothing to say that other races *listened* to the warning - in how many episodes did we see a warning buoy (or whatever) disregarded by the Captain of the Enterprise?

• K Hudson - Ilkston, Derbyshire

To Tracy Saunders - Re Spock (N/L 40) - Humans (and no doubt Vulcans) only need to

believe in themselves to survive. This is basic psychology. The purpose humans ascribe to the universe (whether rational or not) is merely the stage upon which they act out the particular role they follow to justify their beliefs. A logical society would only have need of a religion if it served a logical purpose. I suggest that Vulcan religion is a sublimated form of Vulcan emotion. All that suppressed frustration and anger has to go somewhere.

• Sarah Rooke - Southsea, Portsmouth

C'est moi, again - live from a pack of tarot cards.

Loved the N/L again, the cartoons had me in stitches (especially the one of the Klingons singing the Flintstones and the kids on the bridge of the Enterprise).

To T'Yomin - Live long and prosper to you, too. Star Trek is my family as well, more so than my own. Doesn't that say something about Gene's vision? (and isn't it wild?)

To Raymond Spencer - Loved those famous favourite episodes. I've thought of some more - Ruby Wax - Loud As a Whisper; Bruce Grobelaar - The Arsenal of Freedom; John Redwood - Second Chances; Tony Blair - Man of the People; Arthur Scargill - Pre-emptive Strike; Paddy Ashdown - The Best of Both Worlds; Michael Jackson - The Most Toys; Gazza - Remember Me; Robbie of Take That - The Big Goodbye.

To Chris Tearne - My thoughts on poor old Wes echoed! Vered Gilad, I think you hit the nail on the head regarding Wes's commitment to Starfleet, as well.

To Dave Rogers - I agree with you how people are always slagging off another Trek series. After all, it's still Trek, isn't it? I thought the same as you about TNG when it started, but now it's my No. 1 favourite (how *could* they have cancelled it?) and I can't miss a single episode without getting withdrawal symptoms even when the BBC in their wisdom put boring old sport in its place during the summer.

To Marcia Stanislawski - My brother's

just announced he's gay, but I don't think any less of him because of that - he's still my brother and I still love him, even though he can be a pain at times! I'm glad you're teaching your daughter this. My brother still has to put up with prejudice in society and this is where things need to change first, not only with this but in all cases of ignorance and discrimination.

To Paul Taylor - Loved your 'penguins' spoof!

To Judith Taylor - Loved Wes appearing on the bridge of Voyager at the end!

To Anne Marie Flowers - Loved the Peanuts Gang analogy of TNG. I think it beats Steve Wilson's by far!

To Dwight Schultz - I'm convinced the US and UK governments are withholding information on UFOs, as a matter of 'national security'. It makes the X-files seem real to life (perhaps it is in that case!) I'm also convinced alien abductions are a result of mass psychosis - though probably of the 'Californian set'. I'm glad someone has a commonsense approach to this, for once, and about time too!

To Duncan Lunan - An interesting article appeared in the Sunday Telegraph (24 October 1993) by Adrian Berry, called 'Earth Fails the Intelligence Test'. I quote - 'An experiment using photographs... by Nasa's Galileo spacecraft... found not a single indication of the existence of intelligent life...' Obviously there was no life in Padiham, after all.

To Jay Stevensen - I agree with you about equality (or rather the lack of it) where women are concerned. In this day and age I find it a trifle annoying, and Trek should catch up with the rest of the world (and universe). Hopefully Janeway and B'Elanna Torres will see to that.

Until next time, Q'apla to you all.

• Tholas - a confused Andorian from the IOW

Hi! Although I've been a member of IDIC

since N/L 37, I've kept a low profile so that I could observe other Trekkers (especially the lesser spotted Taruka Q) in their native habitat. Be prepared for an amazing transformation to take place.

To any teenage Trekkers out there, hi. I too am a harassed teenager, but being an Andorian I have extra problems. However, foundation can do wonders for blue skin and I get great parts in school plays.

To Maria Nausch (or anyone else) - call me an Orion Wing Slug if you like, but I don't know about Tim Russ working with all four casts. Please explain. *[Sheila - His parts are actually listed in the August edition of Star Trek Monthly. He played the terrorist Devor in Starship Mine (TNG), the Klingon K'Tar in Invasive Procedures (DS9) as well as the Mirror Tuvok, and played the tactical officer on the bridge of the 1701-B in Generations.]*

To The Friends of Vedek Bareil - My letters are in the post.

Re recurring names in Trek. I think it looks a bit dodgy, Khan Noonian Singh, Lt Commander Singh (TNG) and Mr Singh (TOS). It gives a whole new meaning to Space Seed.

Finally, how do you pronounce IDIC? *[Sheila - It's one word, pronounced like the middle part of r-idic-ulous.]*

Thanks, and keep up the good work, Janet & Co.

PS to Mike Hazlewood - re OSTFCUK. You should see what it means in Andorian!

• Carole Taylor - Rossendale, Lancs

To T'Yomin - I know how you feel. Whenever I go through 'rough patches', it's such a comfort to be able to escape into Trek. A real life saver.

To Carol Sterenberg - Re your zine story. I hope you continue to believe in yourself. As someone trying to write a story of my own I have enormous respect for people like you who have already been published. A question - did writing come easily for you or did it

take practice? I only ask as I'm having a few problems, and wonder whether I'm just not cut out to write stories (this is my first attempt).

To anybody - Being a relatively new fan I could be missing something completely obvious, but I'm puzzled. Why, in STIII:TSFS didn't Kirk (or anyone else for that matter) realise that Spock would have placed his katra with someone else before his death? Surely as close as they were the subject of death would have arisen, yet Kirk knows nothing of it until Sarek confronts him. Does anybody have any ideas?

• Baerbel Schmidt - Asford, Kent

I can only agree with what Janet, Sheila & Valerie said: let's hope the silence from Paramount is a good sign! But I don't agree that we fans should simply wait and see. I can understand your reasoning that writing to Paramount might not be such a good idea right now, though I don't regret having written. I think if we wait until people with possible influence have a chance to do something, we should at least support these people. I can't see any danger in writing letters to Majel Barrett or Bjo Trimble (as I have already done). Perhaps it will support our case if Bjo or Majel were able to put a big sack of fan letters on the desk of the person(s) responsible.

It was a big surprise that I even got a reply from Majel Barrett! She said, "Thank you for writing. I've heard rumours about this and I've been looking into it. I've already spoken to Paramount. Until this stops, I will continue to do so. I know the fan clubs are the foundation of Star Trek. But for the fans and conventions, Gene's vision would never have been able to live and grow. For that, I am eternally grateful. To think of destroying the fan clubs is ridiculous!" This proves to me that writing to her was a good idea and now I am hoping that Majel will succeed in stopping this madness before it can do serious harm.

But Majel pointed out that she cannot support the distribution of so-called 'pirate' videos, and that the actors get money from sales cassettes. In my thank you letter, I told

her that I agree that people who collect copies but never buy the sales cassette should reconsider their attitude, but I am not a parasite because I have around 100 sales cassettes and am continually buying new ones. Not everybody can afford the full set, but people should at least buy some of them. I explained that I know quite a few people who get copies from the USA but these fans also buy sales cassettes. The situation concerning sales cassettes is very different in the USA - there, the latest available TNG episode is one of the third season. I don't know about Classic, but there is definitely no DS9 or Voyager cassette available in the USA. If Viacom is so desperate about earning more money, why do they not change this?

Recently I wrote to Paramount again, but for another reason. I learned some very disturbing news from German newsletters and some friends who went to German conventions. (At least, I found them very disturbing.) First, it is planned to let Lwaxana die in the next TNG movie! According to the Forum News, Majel announced this herself at a convention! According to Info Trek, Ira Steven Behr said at a convention that there will be a story in which Sito Jaxa and Thomas Riker will be freed from a Cardassian labour camp, but during this mission, Thomas Riker will be killed! According to this newsletter, there are also rumours on the Internet about the possibility that the Hera will appear in Voyager and that Geordi's mother will be killed. I am very annoyed about this trend. Is it not possible any more to tell good, thrilling stories without killing characters off? I don't think Paramount is making friends this way! After the lack of success concerning the letter campaign to save Vedek Bareil, I have some doubts if this can still be prevented, but I had to try. I was looking forward to the next movie because I like Borg stories, but the prospect of seeing Lwaxana die really put me off! I would also regret Thomas Riker's death very much. People who share my feelings and concerns should write to Paramount. Please try to prevent this!!!

One of my friends is a big Vedek Bareil fan. If what she learned is correct, it was indeed the case that Nana Visitor didn't like Philip Anglim; but now that he left (or had to

leave) he wants to come back. My friend sent me another leaflet from The Friends of Vedek Bareil asking fans to support his return. I think the only believable possibility for this is a story taking place in the mirror universe in which we could also see Jennifer Sisko again. I like that idea. I hope that Nana Visitor wouldn't object. I cannot imagine, anyway, that Kira II, the Intendent of Terek Nor, is Vedek Bareil's lover!

I have the third season of DS9 completely and I think that in spite of Bareil's death it was excellent! Everybody - also the supporting characters like Garak, Rom, Jake and Nog - had excellent scenes in it, and it was also good to see quite a few good Sisko stories. I am really looking forward to the next season and can only hope that we will be able to see a fifth. I can't understand why the ratings dropped so much. DS9 didn't deserve that! One of my friends thinks DS9 is ahead of its time and she dreads the introduction of Worf because she likes the series *because* it is not TNG! Before that happens, DS9 should be cancelled. I am also not happy about this development, although I am prepared to give the introduction of Worf a chance.

• Lesley Arrowsmith - Bwthyn Llysiau, 1 Pontiffrithel, Three Cocks, Brecon, Powys LD3 0SA

To Gary Heron, from his Star Trek Exhibition article, re DNA. My husband pointed out rather forcefully, that if rank = frequency, measuring the log of rank against the log of frequency will always result in a straight line, because you are measuring a thing against itself. The point about DNA being structured like a long test is an interesting one, though. Perhaps a bit of of the explanation was missed out? (Allen - "Of course it's important - this is misleading information that could confuse a lot of people.")

Re Kirk and religions - in Who Mourns for Adonais?, Kirk refuses to worship the god Apollo and says something like, "We find the one God quite sufficient". Taken with Uhura's assumption that everyone on the bridge would understand about the Sun/Son worshippers. In Bread and Circuses, this does

imply that the bridge crew is familiar with knowledge about religions even if they are not members of any religion themselves.

Re feline Vulcans - This is a very early idea in fandom, appearing in Spockanalia, one of the very first US fanzines (in 1967). The writers of the article extrapolate back from Spock's observed behaviour, particularly his habit of throwing people around in fights rather than using his fists, and his preference for sneaking up on people and neck pinching them. If anyone is interested in reading the whole article, I can photocopy it for them.

• Kaz Draklon - Medical Officer, IKV Dark Terror (Alberto Gorim, de Bruynlaan 5, 6816PW Arnhem, Holland)

Kai, everyone.

I am a human in a Klingon world. We are supposed to have no fear, be aggressive, be powerful, so are we impressed by weakly Earth women over here (staff of IDIC)?

More seriously, I write with this lady, she stopped, vanished, then I can at last write to an Israeli but she doesn't write back. Look guys, I ain't going to chase anyone - but I would love to know the reason for it - OK? *[Sheila - I think it's a language problem. Don't get me wrong, you obviously understand English fine, but to be honest you don't write it terribly accurately. I have a lot of respect for the fact that you contribute regularly, but have you noticed how I alter a lot of your spelling, and sometimes some of the wording, as I have done in this letter? A native English speaker can usually work out what you mean, but someone for whom it's a second language could have problems. It's difficult to maintain a correspondence if you can't understand a lot of what the other person is writing.]*

I notice sometimes comparisons between CT, TNG, DS9 and Voyager. Often CT is better, but it's a totally different time. CT is so long ago... I am a fan of James T Kirk too, but his time is gone. But William Shatner is alive, and so long as he is, James Kirk is alive. Movies are never logic, always a part in real life would be different. Otherwise a

movie isn't exciting.

I wish all of you a nice flight through space. My communication channel is always open (except for Romulans and Ferengi - don't trust them for one cent!) Everyone else is welcome, even strange Klingons.

• Kathleen Glancy - Edinburgh

My writing must be getting worse. I actually wrote 'more highly evolved *furless* tribbles', not *bustless*. As I have yet to see A tribble with a bust, 'bustless' does not make a lot of sense. *[Sheila - Sorry. My fingers must have taken over without my brain engaging gears]*

It strikes me that with each succeeding series of Star Trek the Captain gets more politically correct. In the original series the Captain is an all-American WASP (I am aware that William Shatner is Canadian and Jewish, but he looked and sounded like an all-American WASP and in his business appearance is everything) womaniser and Action Man. In TNG the Captain is older, European, follically challenged, less promiscuous and more cerebral. In DS9 the Commander is black and a single parent. In Voyager, the Captain is a woman. The next logical step, should there ever be yet another spin-off, is to have a Captain who is gay. Do you think they'd have the guts to do it? No, me neither.

To Andrew William Merritt - I am sorry to break it to you, but better you hear it now than after, perhaps, you revisit Florida. Universal Studios doesn't do a Star Trek show any more, hence Lynn Baxter couldn't have appeared in it. I believe the California one has also discontinued it. I am now rather sorry that I yielded the chance of appearing as an engineer in California some years ago (I had it sewn up, my Scottish accent being rather more authentic than J Doohan's - not that the engineers spoke, as far as I recall) to a 6-year-old rival. Only he was about to cry - and he gave me a big kiss as a thank you. At my age you don't get big kisses from handsome (very) young men that often. I thought I'd get another chance last year in Florida, but not so.

Re Scotty's forgetting Kirk's 'death' - no doubt that James O'Donovan has the real explanation. But if you want to rationalise it, there are two possibilities.

1. The lengthy period in stasis caused a slight degree of cell deterioration. Some brain cells were affected. They happened to be the ones holding the memory of Kirk's apparent demise. No? Well, then -

2. Scotty had a nervous breakdown to the loss of his Captain and his 'bairns', the engines, on his (enforced?) retirement. He could have coped with one, but not both. So his mind blotted out Kirk's death. He was otherwise quite rational, and able to travel unescorted. He was however due for treatment once he reached the retirement colony. Once he emerged into the TNG world his problem vanished, since it was easier to admit Kirk's death - perhaps he rationalised it as due to old age - and the challenges of his new life counterbalanced the loss of the second Enterprise.

Stephen Shaw's explanation of the difference between Classic and all subsequent Klingons is *brilliant*. Who can doubt that he is right? Speaking of explanations - if The Ashes of Eden begins with Spock at Kirk's grave, does it explain how he got there? How he heard of Kirk's disappearance and death in the first place, and how he then got off Romulus? Someone tell me before I give in and buy the thing in hardback.

• Catherine Hill - Burntwood, Staffs

To Sarah Rooke - Thanks! I'm always getting stick for being a trekker, especially at school, and your words were encouraging!

To Andrew William Merritt - Yep, I entered all the competitions in the Sun newspaper and I was lucky enough to win a Geordi La Forge phone card!

To Raymond Spencer - Re famous people's fav episodes - I love them, they were excellent and extremely funny!

To Adam H North - Re Sisko - absolutely. Sisko is definitely the right man for the job

on DS9. He's a great leader and I can't see what people have against him, either.

To Penny Robinson - Hi! Thanks a lot for writing to me. I hope we can go on corresponding.

To Annette Bohm - I like the conflict between characters in DS9 also, it puts 'grit' and a realistic touch to the series. It's one of the things I love about DS9!

To Sara Hall - Wow! DS9 coming to BBC 2 at the end of the year? That is incredible! I must admit I had doubts that the BBC would ever show DS9 after all that happened with TNG, but now my doubts have been resolved. Excellent! Also I will definitely be writing to Paramount regarding subtitles.

To Rosalyn D Holland - Hugh is *not* soft! He is the perfect example of how just because you are *born* as a member of a species doesn't mean you necessarily have to *act* like a member of that species. Hugh's attitude after working with Geordi nearly had me in tears - it was that line - Picard - You are Borg. Hugh - No - I am Hugh. I *love* Hugh, which is not to say I don't like 'mad, bad and dangerous' Borg as well. Believe me, I do, it's just that I love Hugh's sense of individuality.

Right, now I have wholly disagreed with you, I will now say I agree with you about Voyager - I like it too, it's ace!

To Les Moyes - Hi! First of all, a *big* thank you for all the Trek/X-Files stuff you have sent me since we started corresponding. You are the best!

By the way, I agree with you totally about Voyager - much as I love Sisko, I think Janeway is better (and what do you mean, it's not because she's a woman?! :-))

To Julie Evans & Valerie Herd & Co - I *love* those cartoons, especially the 'why Picard doesn't let kids on the bridge'!

To Janet, Sheila & Valerie - Am I the youngest member of IDIC at present? I'm 14. [Sheila - Is there anyone younger?]

• Gul Melset - Cardassian Embassy

Reporting back from leave on Bajor...

To Rory Smith - Natural selection is just that. Environmental factors determine the survival of organisms, thus any extraneous interference cancels the true course of evolution. Strict enforcement of the Prime Directive is indicated, no matter who is endangered. Colonising a world is always a risk as a newly-introduced organism not equipped with the proper immunity or reactions will fall prey to predators or illnesses unless it learns to cope. The reverse is also true; consider your own world, the introduced illnesses that killed native races or the disappearance of insular species.

To Adam J Smith - I also wonder why many dislike Commander Sisko. He is an excellent commander, a fine diplomat, shows no favouritism and does not lack intensity. If he does not show the forcefulness of a Starship Captain, remember his status as a 'guest' of the Bajoran government of Terek Nor. Replacing him by a less level-headed individual could complicate matters considerably.

To Nigel Nixon - Thunderstorms et al are parts of planetside life. A bird is geared to flight and will hardly die if it can flee. A captive one on a Starship will be faced with the inability to take off, and panic. Being twitchy assures a bird will react quickly to a threat.

To Vered Gilad - All information about Voyager is much appreciated, and I always read novels before watching the films based on them. A general query - has anyone noticed that shortly before Voyager passes the solar flares, there are some strains of Wagnerian music incorporated into the theme?

To Martin Stahl - You are most kind to underline my criticism of Genesis. As a scientist and Federation member you will possibly elicit a different reaction from the one I did.

To Karen Jayne Devon - I have never met with any laughter because of my liking for

Trek, but was only asked what I liked about it, which I stated, mentioning the charities as well. Of course, that is one of the last things acquaintances find out, and by then they also know about my other interests.

James O'Donovan - I regret having to disappoint you, but neither we nor the Klingons (nor other humanoids) have exoskeletons. You may find extra cartilage, scales, facial ridges or all three, but for exoskeletons (outer supporting carapaces with elaborate joints) refer to arthropods.

• Christian Gaeng - Hildastr. 31, 68794 Oberhausen, Germany

Well, I heard your comments in N/L 41 and agreed with most of you, except Nigel Nixon. Do you really think what you said in the last N/L? Let me show you an example about another series in Germany.

I think you all know the great series The X-Files from Twentieth Century Fox. In Germany, the channel Pro 7 is showing this new series. Activities about the show must be licensed from Fox and Pro 7 in Germany. That means - no unlicensed cons and fan meetings. There is an X-Files club in Berlin. Pro 7 gives them the status of 'European Fanclub Centre' and I think this is the wrong way. I understand that every new fan club must have the licence from this club. I cannot believe you would like that! But back to Star Trek.

The difference between Fox and Paramount is: Fox started this way right from the beginning, but not Paramount. Gene Roddenberry himself gave the fans the possibility of running fan conventions and clubs. Since Rick Berman took over the helm, many, many things changed. For example - Star Trek VII. Gene said in the past - "Bring not together the Classic and the TNG crew!" What happened? They were together. By the way, I loved Generations, but I hated the way it was made. ST: DS9 is the biggest mistake of Berman. I don't think the show will live seven seasons, and it will never make a movie!

To everyone who said "boycott licensed merchandise". That's the wrong way.

Paramount would close every club if that happened, and that is exactly the thing we do not want. I say "Boycott Rick Berman and the other bosses at Paramount. Make another letter campaign (Hi, Martin Stahl, Hi Bjo!) Don't let them do this."

Please write back to me. I want to hear your thoughts.

• Julie Evans - Flat 1, 31 Newsham Dr, Liverpool L6 7UG

To Jackie Marshall (N/L 40 P 27) - Re Bashir. Drop me a line and I'll give you details of an imminent Bashir zine I was recently asked to provide two illustrations for. If it's as good as the Data zine that went before, you won't be disappointed!

To Jay Stevensen (N/L 40 P 43) - Fantasies about Data and Lore? Moi? :-) Seriously, it is my intention to diversify with my cartoons, but I have to tell you, I'm a Next Genner through and through. Not being too familiar with either OT or DS9 makes it difficult to come up with gags that apply to the situation, if you see what I mean - but please be patient, I should get there eventually. As to Paramount heavies knocking on my door at midnight - hmmm. Do you think they'd prefer custard creams or jammy dodgers?

To Veronica Duthie - Most certainly I can do you a cartoon of the darling Brent! Get in touch and we'll work something out. By the way, I adore Data with emotions, it's what he always wanted and I love to see people having their fondest desires come true. (Guess I'm just an old softie really.)

To Tasha Yar - I'm from the Leather Jacket Inspection Board. Your leather jacket is faulty - it must be returned immediately. Someone will come round next week to collect it; don't worry if you're not in, we provide all our staff with their own company crowbars. You must understand... this is for your own safety.

To Neil J Barrett - Help! The tribbles are taking over! I'm training them to hold pencils and to fetch beer, which is all they need to know in this house. I'm sure they'll save on

heating bills in the winter, too.

And to all Lore fans everywhere - 'E's not dead... 'e's restin'!

• Lisa Livermore - London

Having read the last three newsletters from cover to cover I felt inspired to put printer to paper and add my own thoughts and feelings about recent events.

I never really got into CT (preferring Space 1999) but then it didn't have a certain golden android and I didn't have hormones. Only with TNG, Data and hormones was my interest aroused.

To me CT always looked dated even in the 70s. Each episode was classic 'soap' - same script, different aliens (Kirk kisses girl, has fistcuff fight... Spock says something cryptic... Bones moans... Scotty saves the day (and dilithium crystals) with moments to spare...)

Re sci-fi on TV. Carlton (London regional TV) isn't too bad providing you have a video or plenty of matchsticks (to prop open your eyes) - sci-fi programmes are usually confined to the last night/early morning. Things like the Twilight Zone and Beyond Reality (both tend to do a disappearing act as soon as you've got the weekly programme set up on the video), Alien Nation - great show - Starsky & Hutch with aliens, interesting concept - writers exploring everyday problems (prejudice, gangs, corruption) without offending anyone's sensibilities (unless any Tenctonese happen to tune in!) and War of the Worlds - not bad... a bit gory/graphic in places (especially as I usually catch up with it Sunday lunch times, doesn't really go with roast beef and Yorkie pud). BBC1 is the real offender - with no sign of real sci-fi since Dr Who and Blake's 7.

I must admit that having read N/L 41 (no news about Brent - what's happening - didn't he sign a deal including 3 non-Trek films when negotiating for Generations - any news on them?) I came away extremely depressed. I'm not really your average Trekker - too self-conscious (in the Ancient West it wouldn't be me crashing through the saloon bar doors,

the enigmatic stranger - Troi does it so much better), I'd probably be a little Indian squaw sitting in some corner (this may explain the attraction to Chakotay - kindred spirits; maybe it's hormones again.) I don't go to many cons, don't feel the need to dress up, but I do appreciate great entertainment and *Generations* con was certainly that (all the guests were brilliant, though the slide shows and auctions were a little - okay, a lot - lacking). I was lucky enough to be one of the ladies under Brent (don't I wish) when he surprised LeVar. Got a great view up his right nostril!

Anyway, what's with all the moans and groans... if it's not DS9 (I've only seen 4 series 3 episodes and am eagerly awaiting BBC 2 showing - late September, it's Berman & Co, *Voyager* (haven't seen any, though I have got the audio tape of *Caretaker*) - or any number of grievances. Whilst I agree with the comments about over-merchandising and Paramount's insanity about licensing, I can't help but be concerned at the jaded opinions everyone was broadcasting. Whatever form it's in, *Star Trek* (even CT) is good TV. Come on, you guys, lighten up a little!

To Glyn Holland - Re Brent's eyes. Whilst I agree, I would draw your attention to my favourite (visible) body part - his mouth. That mouth has a kissable quality that just won't go away!

• Allan Kelly - Glasgow

This is the first time I have written to IDIC, so hello to all my fellow *Star Trek* fans.

I was wondering if anyone has noted that *Star Trek* has become more and more gloomy. First of all there is no more flagship to lead the Fleet. Also, for the first time there is a warship. A warship is not a good sign for peace and exploration! Now there are terrorists called the Maquis; they go around blowing up ships and planning ambushes. The Obsidian Order has built a fleet and with the help of the Romulans plans to destroy the Founders of the Dominion. The Dominion itself puts the biggest cloud of doom on the Alpha Quadrant since the Borg.

You have to wonder what Gene would

say about his dream now. Your opinions, please.

• Helen Thompson - Kilmelford, Argyll

Several months after seeing *Generations*, my most abiding memory of the whole experience is my friend's five-year-old's insistence on referring to Captain Kirk as "Strawberry Face". I enjoyed the film at the time, but it's since proved to be rather forgettable.

I haven't seen all that much *Voyager*, but what I've seen, I've loved. I took to the crew immediately, with the exception of Tom Paris, and even he is growing less irritating as I see more. Tim Russ is brilliant as Tuvok, the first really convincing new Vulcan for a long time.

I asked a Lakota friend (an entirely corporeal entity called Frank) about Chakotay's facial tattoo. He had no idea what it could mean or its origins, except that it wasn't Lakota and he didn't think it was Plains. In my solitary and rather limited book (*Native Tribes of North America*, Michael Johnson), the Yuma and the Mohave tribes of desert Arizona/California/Mexico are shown in photographs as having decorative facial tattoos across their cheeks. Some of the North Eastern Woodland tribes are illustrated (not photographed) as having designs painted/tattooed (it doesn't say which) on one side of their face around the temple, eye and cheekbone; these are more similar in design and positioning to Chakotay's than the Yuma and Mojave's are. I don't know if Taruka Q's linguistic examination of Chakotay's name raises the possibility of his being connected to one of the old North Eastern nations? It's also occurred to me (I haven't seen *Journey's End*, so I don't have all the facts at hand) that perhaps instead of individual tribes colonising individual planets Native Americans could have a "Pan Indian" colony in the way that most pow wows are Pan Indian - mixed and intertribal, drawing from several tribal sources and traditions. If this was the case, Chakotay's tattoo might not relate specifically to one tribe.

I'm not clever when it comes to technical

things, or maybe I'm overlooking something obvious, so can anyone tell me (in simple words) why Voyager's nacelles are repositioned before she goes into warp. Is it a power thing?

• Jean Perrin - Burton upon Trent

I have seen about half a dozen episodes of Voyager now, and I think I am going to like it. I like the plain, no nonsense Captain. If something needs done down on a planet, down she goes and does it, she doesn't have a discussion with some baby-sitting First Officer as to whether he will allow her to go or not. I also like Tuvok and if I close my eyes I think he sounds just like Spock.

The two characters I don't really like are Kes or Neelix and I'm not really sure why they are there. I know Neelix is supposed to know the area of space they are in, but at the speeds they move, they will soon be outside his area of knowledge, or should be. Kes will be dead in eight years and then Neelix will be the only really alien alien in Federation space when they get home. All in all, I can't help thinking they are both a waste of space - no pun intended, but perhaps their *raison d'être* will become more obvious as time goes by.

A couple of newsletters ago, I mentioned that O'Brien seems to have been demoted, according to his rank pips. Martin Stahl says it's a continuity error, and he may well be right. I was going to say that Colm Meaney ought to have noticed and mentioned it, but according to Jean Sloan, it appears he did and was ignored. Apparently this is a popular bone of contention because I see there is a letter about it in this month's Star Trek Magazine and Titan don't seem to know the answer either, they waffled on about him being an unenlisted officer (whatever that is). It will be interesting to see what replies they get, because in a recent episode (Past Tense Part I) he says he was glad he stayed on as an "enlisted man", and if that means the same in the 24th century as now, I reckon that makes him some sort of glorified sergeant major. Bearing in mind the amount or responsibility he has on DS9 (he seems to be the only one who does any real work), I think his rank should be second to none but Sisko anyway.

Back to TNG. Does anyone know why Picard is so keen on Dixon Hill? With his classical background and interest in archaeology, classical music and Shakespeare, it seems totally out of character for him to be interested in some sleazy third rate private eye.

If Worf becomes a regular on DS9, how are they going to get him back on the Enterprise for the next film?

Wesley for President! Hailing frequencies closed.

• Jo Buckwell - 1106 Sandgate Rd, Brighton, Sussex BN1 6JA

Although I've been interested in ST for around 20 years, I'm quite new to fanzines. This is my first letter to a zine, so please bear with me! Some of the comments I'm about to make relate to letters in N/Ls prior to No 41 - since 41 is my first, I can only go by replies to previous letters.

Firstly, to Sarah Rooke, re getting stick for being a Trekker. Well said! Too many people have preconceived ideas about the sort of people Trekkers are. We've often been put in the same league as train spotters! It's also a popular misconception that ST/sci-fi fans are all men. Most of my Trek penpals are women. [*Janet - The majority of SF fans are still men. With CT at least 75% of fans were women but more male fans have come in with TNG and DS9. I don't know what the percentage is now.*]

Why do people seem to think that because someone does something *they* wouldn't, they're wrong? Surely it's up to the individual to choose their own tastes and opinions, and no-one should have to put up with being judged as a person because of those tastes. The way I see it, we're all sharing Gene's dream, and doing harm to no-one. If people have a problem with that, maybe they should first look at what's missing in their own lives before criticising the way others live theirs. I'm proud to be part of a world-wide family, and I don't care what people think.

To Jackie Marshall & Eunice Pearson re

the gorgeous Dr Bashir. I'm glad I'm not the only one who likes him. Please write!

To Keren Breen re Wesley Crusher. I was beginning to think the whole world hated him. What people seem to forget is that he's saved the Enterprise on several occasions. Perhaps they're jealous of his genius!

To Dave Rogers re Jason Nelmes - I agree with what you say in defence of fans who follow ST with more enthusiasm. I think it's wonderful to see all those lucky people at conventions wearing uniforms and alien costumes. There's a lot of work put into them and they certainly turn heads! This doesn't mean that these people are obsessed and have difficulty discerning real life from fantasy. Star Trek is a way of life to so many, and they choose to spend their free time becoming more involved in it. I'd love to have the opportunity to wear a full uniform and show it off at a con!

Lastly, I'd like to hear from any members in the Brighton area. There never seem to be any cons in this part of the country, and I am unable to get to any elsewhere in England. I'd like someone to share my views on ST with, and perhaps go to cons. *[Janet - Why not try to start a local group? You can always start with meetings in your house before looking for something larger like a room at a pub or some other venue.]*

• Edward Woo - a bricklayer

When I first heard that Michael Dorn was intending to join the cast of DS9, I was very surprised. Personally, I don't agree with the idea as it will affect the storylines for the other cast members. If there is a problem with DS9 in terms of ratings, then script changes would be needed and should be solved first before bringing in someone else.

For all its faults, I like and enjoy DS9. If Michael Piller and Rick Berman thought they could stray from Gene's ideas in developing DS9, and be just as successful, this character cross-over seems to have said something's wrong here. What happens if Worf's appearance does not improve the ratings? No fifth season?

As to Voyager's modest success, it seems to be using the Great Bird's idea of a ship exploring with a crew that has characters. Also it is more upbeat, with a positive image of humanity. I enjoy it, too - but if they really want to get home, the ship should just go as fast as possible and not investigate any space anomalies, planets or other races but only stop to restock with supplies. By investigating the area it's in, it is building a map of that area. However, if the crew was larger, it could seed planets with Starfleet mini-stations and put an extension of the Federation there. However, lost crew members could be replaced with other alien species (ie Kes and Neelix). There must be other races looking for peace and friendship.

SPOILER ALERT We know Voyager has already lost two crew (Peter in Faces and the Bajoran-Cardassian Seska). Does anyone know how many of the Enterprise crew under Captain Kirk were lost in their 5-year mission?

It was said at a recent convention that Generations did not do too well domestically in the USA, and the world-wide sales made up the shortfall. Surely this must show that a hasty film, rushed to make a dollar, fell down badly. The question must be asked - would an eighth season of TNG have been far more profitable than the poor film?

To Chris Coxon - Re the 'first contact' situation with differently sized life forms. I believe two episodes of the original Twilight Zone dealt with a similar subject. One flying saucer landed on an Earthling's roof. The ship was the size of a dustbin lid, and the lady of the house, overcome by fear, flattened the ship with a hammer. In another episode a flying saucer landed in an ocean and its occupants were so small they drowned. Their 'oceans' would have been a small puddle to Humans.

To Maureen Norton - Well observed about Odo's comm badge!

To Jean Perrin - From what I've heard, the BBC said that since they had originally shown Classic Trek, they should have first rights to refuse or buy any subsequent series.

At the same time, there is an unspoken agreement between ITV, Channel 4 and BBC that if a programme is successful on one channel, it would not be poached by the others till the whole run finished or the rights were given up.

To Brenda Allen - If Scotty does get back before the adventures of the 1701-B, he has a shuttlecraft with 75 years of advanced technology which could alter Starfleet's history.

To Marie - Sorry. I did not mean to criticise your right to view Generations a 2nd, 3rd or 4th time, but felt personally that I would not want a second viewing. I would happily go to see the *other* ST films many times (especially II, IV & VI).

• Marcia Stanislawski - Israel

Rule 103 - A couple of light years can't keep good friends apart. Well, I know that any place on Earth is much closer than even half a light year, and I also know that I don't *know* most of the IDIC members (Hi Vered, Moo Alon), but I still feel that ST has always managed to bring people together, and I consider myself lucky to be part of this ever-growing family, and even luckier to have found IDIC. Being able to express your opinions is very important, and having someone who'll listen to them is even more so.

Re Imzadi - When I first read this book I came across something that was very interesting: the names of the Sindareen raiders are all words in Hebrew, and they are all connected to Passover, which is one of the most important holidays in the Jewish tradition. Passover is the equivalent of Easter; it's a reminder of the times when the people of Israel were slaves in Egypt (you know, when Moses freed them from the bonds of slavery and took them across the Red Sea and the Sinai desert to the promised land). Anyway, the Sindareen were called Maror, Baytzah, Zroah, Charoset, Chazaret and Karpas, and this is what they mean:

Maror - means 'bitter herb'; it symbolises the bitterness of slavery.

Baytzah - means 'egg'; it's a symbol of the

sacrifices people used to offer God in the times when the Temple still stood in Jerusalem.

Zroah - means 'arm'; it symbolises the arm of God and His power, with which He helped Moses free His people.

Charoset - is a condiment used on Passover Eve; it's a symbol of the cement the slaves used in their work.

Chazaret - means horse radish; it's another symbol of bitterness.

Karpas - means celery; it's also a symbol of bitterness.

I wonder why Peter David chose to give the Sindareen such names? I thought maybe it's a joke among friends, since most people wouldn't know the names had any meaning. I would like to hear any ideas any of you might have on the subject. Peace and long life to all of you. [*Sheila - Not to worry, Marcia, we never give out addresses unless the person involved actually says we can or indicates we can by saying 'write me'. Otherwise we only put the town or country where they live.*]

• Russell Witheyman - Crawley, W Sussex

Just a few comments on Worf joining DS9. I don't think DS9 needs Worf, I think the show can stand on its own without any characters from TNG. Don't get me wrong, I will love seeing Michael Dorn playing Worf again on a weekly basis, because Worf is my favourite TNG character, but DS9 as a strong enough series to survive on its own back. Also, how will this affect the movies? Will the Enterprise-E pick up Worf or will Worf just make a cameo appearance? Hopefully they'll work him in somehow.

Voyager, first season, has been fairly good with only a couple of really duff episodes. Best were Caretaker, Time and Again, Phage, State of Flux and Eye of the Needle. Hopefully the second season should produce better episodes (which should start to happen). As for DS9, the 3rd season is probably the strongest yet, although only just - the first half of the season was pretty naff except for The Search and Defiant, but the second half got much better, with terrific episodes like Improbable Cause/Die is Cast, Through the Looking Glass, Shakaar, Family

Business, Past Tense and The Adversary. Roll on Season 4!

• Rhiannon - USS Invention

To Damian Griffiths - I too wondered how the poor fellow in the transporter room is to know who (not) to beam up. Another thing about transporters - in each transporter room there are only so many spaces for beaming; in some episodes more people are beamed aboard (at once) than there are spaces. How would that work? I mean, do they 'pass on' some of them to another transporter room?

To Lee Oatway - You are certainly right about IDIC. Before I joined, I was a member of another club in Hamburg, but the whole atmosphere was unfriendly and rather aggressive. I left the club quite soon to join this one, which I did not regret. IDIC is a great club, let's keep it that way.

To Taruka Q - I totally agree with your definition of katra, and about a katra going mad in the Hall of Thought - "It's just till you're used to it!" said the baker to his cat while using her to sweep the oven... :-) (Kids, *don't* try this at home!)

It's been a while since I saw Generations, but anyway - when the saucer section crash landed on that planet, we had some of those scenes again that make me wonder: why don't they have safety belts on Starships, at least on the bridge? "Attention please, this is the Captain. Please stop smoking and fasten your seat belt, there's trouble ahead!" :-)

To K'Ehlyr tai Koloath - In N/L 40 you said the Terran cat kills for fun, if I got that right. I have spent much time with cats and therefore think I know a bit about them. I believe there is a big difference between a Terran (or Klingon) killing a harmless animal and a cat catching a bird; the Terran can decide whether or not to kill the animal, whilst a cat cannot overcome its instincts. This means that a cat does not kill for fun, but because of its 'natural program'.

To Tracy Saunders - I enjoyed reading your texts about Spock and McCoy. I also feel the Vulcans were a lot like us - before they

chose the path of logic. I would see the development of Vulcan as an alternative to our way. You wondered why there was a need for religion on Vulcan. Maybe I'm mistaken, but could not logic be understood as a 'religion'?

• Margaret Gibb - Renfrew

The comments on pages 62 - 67 in N/L 41 certainly came from the hearts of those contributing. I'd just like to say how fandom has affected me.

Until 3 years ago, I was a fan, but then I joined IDIC and became A FAN. Thanks to the club's up to date news and letter discussions, I got more interested and, of course, started buying merchandise - books, videos, etc; then, again with IDIC's help, I began to meet people and make good friends. Through them I'm now going to conventions and my bank account is showing the strain!

Doesn't Paramount realise that without clubs like IDIC people like me wouldn't have been tempted to try out fandom, and, ultimately, part with money? Now that they are becoming increasingly possessive of all things Trek, I have decided, where possible, not to buy 'official' goods. Many of the fan-run tables at conventions offer excellent goods, and thanks to Gloria Fry and Maggie Symon, I'm now getting into zine reading so that's what I'll be concentrating on in future.

Ben McLelland says on P 67 that the variety in Trek will be lost and everyone will conform - well, this 'everyone' will not conform and I don't think many people in the Trek universe will either.

I know I've come a bit late to fandom, but I hope this is not the beginning of the end of conventions.

• Vered Gilad - 14 Churchill St, 42221 Netanya, Israel

The dreary future of ST fandom: we are entering the Dark Ages. Paramount patrol squads are everywhere smashing dealer tables and video machines at unlicensed cons, stripping home-made uniforms off the bodies of terrified fans and exterminating all home-made tribbles. Gatherings of more than 3 ST

fans, not at an official con, have been prohibited and fans go out on moonless nights to meet each other in dark alleys where they trade home-made stuff and fanzines. All are sad that videos cannot be seen any more and remember the good old days before the Viacom takeover. Is this going to be our fate?!!! For once I am grateful that I live in this little, unheard-of place (at least in ST terms) and so no-one will notice the very small unauthorised ST activity that we might have. At least we won't be able to miss much of these lovely activities, as you can't miss something you don't have and sadly probably never will. :-)

To Susanne Charlesworth, P 30 - I believe that Amanda wanted to have a child from Sarek, but that Sarek, aware of Vulcan bigotry (something that appears in many novels, and doesn't quite fit in with logic) did not really want to have one, and did it against his better judgement only to fulfil Amanda's wishes. I'm not saying that he didn't want to have a child, but that it wasn't the right thing to do on Vulcan.

In view of Vulcan bigotry, I can understand Sarek's logic of being very harsh with his son about not submitting himself to his demands. If the bigotry could be taken out of the equation, then there would be no need for Sarek's behaviour. It is not Sarek's logic that is flawed, but the logic of Vulcan society.

Dr McCoy is my favourite character and that is because of his very Human behaviour. I guess he's someone I can relate to. Being a psychologist doesn't mean that you always think of what you say because you know what reaction you'll receive. Always trying to organise your thoughts before saying them aloud can drive a person crazy, so not letting his profession get in the way of his behaviour when not actually working is actually the smartest move McCoy makes. Abusing alcohol (and taking all those sedatives and stimulants) is something of a problem when it comes to TOS, but these reflect the period when the series was made. McCoy ran away from his wife, and by that, also from his daughter, because he wasn't a sensible man (thank God). He's Human, and was blinded

by his feelings. In a way he is for me a tragic hero.

I've written to Pocket Books about the Companion and Encyclopedia, and now I'll see if there's any response. I might have gone just a bit over the top when I stated that PB should think about all those fans photocopying the last 2 NG seasons from a friend with a new Companion, but I think that just saying "bring out a supplement" and not giving them some form of motive would not bring any results. Anyway, I believe that my letter, like many other fan-written ones, was added to the big pile in the PB rubbish bin.

To Nancy Wilson - Hi, there. To Antje Rubenach - Thanks for the advice. To Mathias Lindholm (P46) - I do feel sorry for you, but I also wish you a very happy Christmas (I know it's a bit early). To Nanaki Kaur - Thank you for the cassettes you sent to Alon.

• Jay Stevensen - Essex

To Neil J Barrett (N/L 41 P 70) - I must be politically incorrect, too... I also had a problem with the idea of a black Vulcan. But now that I've seen Caretaker, I'm converted! Tim Russ is great! Clearly (sensible man) he has studied Leonard Nimoy's performance, including the dry humour (his 'bath scene' with Neelix actually made me laugh outright) but his Vulcan is no carbon copy of Spock. The professional/friendly relationship between Janeway (Kate Mulgrew tried a bit too hard in this episode I thought) and Tuvok could be turned into something dramatically attractive, if intelligently handled. And let's hope Neelix isn't used only for comic relief. He's already shown bravery and resource by planning the rescue of his girl friend.

To Carol Sterenberg - (N/L 41 P 31) - I'm not sure I'd agree that pro writers "don't give a toss" for reviews, although a few of the Trek writers definitely give the impression they're doing it for the cash. Neil's letter on P 34 rightly points out the editorial problems some of the pros have to put up with. I sympathise, although I don't think this is an excuse for the poor characterisation that ruins so many of the novels.

To Kathleen Glancy (N/L 41 P 17) - I did know Bill Shatner's "Get a life" came from a comedy sketch (it was pointed out to me after I used it in my Let's Stop Bashing Bill article in N/L 35). Perhaps I should have made it clear this time round, instead of (unintentionally) adding to the legend so beloved of the press that "Captain Kirk" despises Trek fans. I've never believed this... and offer my article as proof!

Enjoyed Relics (and admit to a lump in the throat when Scotty 'resurrected' the original bridge) but would have preferred a different ending (I could have done without the schmaltzy goodbyes, too). Would Scotty *really* be happy as a retired 'out of date' relic? Wouldn't it have been better if he had been shown sacrificing himself to save the Enterprise, maybe staying aboard his ship to hold the portal open? Or is that too downbeat? Opinions, anyone?

• **Alistair Craig - Victoria, Canada**

After reading The Future of Star Trek Fandom in NL #40, it doesn't look like a good day to be a Trek fan. It was certainly a chilling bit of news, but was it all that surprising? No, Paramount is just mopping up the last dribble of revenue it can possibly squeeze out of its immense cash cow. It has been a growing phenomenon for almost ten years; no-one who is a Trek fan could possibly have missed it. Especially not when the most noticeable aspect of all this, the proliferation of licensed products, is now at a peak at the same time as the quality of these items has reached its nadir. There is so much Trek merchandise available that sales have begun to suffer as they eat into each others' market, and even the hardcore fans have begun to wonder just how many trashy bits of paper and plastic inscribed with the Star Trek name they really need.

It was bad enough dealing with the corporate mentality when ST was produced by plain old Paramount Pictures, or even its successor, Paramount Entertainment, but now we have to deal with the Mega-Corporate mindset of Viacom. If the old Paramount suffered from a dearth of vision, I think the new Paramount will show that it is lacking entirely.

This whole business about the legal crackdown on clubs and zines set me thinking. How likely is it that Paramount could successfully attack Trek fans in Canada? Unfortunately, it is extremely likely because they have done it already. In the late 1970's, a Canadian zine published in the province of Ontario, The Dreadnought Chronicles, earned the distinction of being the only Star Trek fan publication (that I know of) ever legally enjoined from publishing. As it happened, they had thrown together a story which strongly resembled the script of Star Trek: The Motion Picture, and Paramount panicked, sensing a threat to the project that was meant to be their big-budget competition for the Star Wars films. It was a simple matter of synchronicity - Dreadnought was the type of fan fiction that leans heavily on re-using favourite devices from the source series/movie, and the script of STTMP was in some respects pastiche, itself. Thus, working from the same source material, they managed to come up with very similar plots. An accident, yes, but it didn't save the zine.

Canada does not have the type of copyright law which allows use of material if the copyright owner does not challenge the use within a certain time limit (i.e. if you have been doing something unchallenged for some time, you may continue do so and the copyright owner cannot object). However, for many years, media fans have operated clubs and cons and published zines in Canada, under the presumption that they exist in a grey area of copyright law which allows the use of copyright material as long as it isn't for profit. Maybe the news of the Dreadnought Chronicles business didn't spread, or people weren't listening, because many still embrace that fallacy. Unauthorised use of copyrighted or licensed material in Canada can be punished and has been, quite effectively, in the past.

All this is enough to make even my friends among the non-Trek media fans quite nervous. It can't help but make them all the more aware of just how good their relations are with people like Babylonian Productions (B5), Chris Carter (X-Files), or Panzer/Davis Productions (Highlander). In many ways

their, and our, existence as organized fans depends on corporate sufferance. That unpleasantness between Who fans and the BBC (mostly due to a couple of testy BBC1 Controllers) seems minor compared to what Paramount is undertaking.

Perhaps the reason this is happening now is that Paramount has realized their marketing data shows that up to 50% of the U.S. population (i.e. half of 260M people) say they are fans and watch Trek at least occasionally. With 125M people claiming to be Trek watchers in the USA alone - Lord knows what it would be if the world wide figures were added in - the relatively small group of hardcore, active fans (a few tens of thousands?) has become statistically insignificant. They may have brought the original show back from cancellation in the 1960's and put it back on the large and small screen later, but now, from the marketing standpoint, they don't matter. They might as well not exist. End of story.

Of course, if Trek's wide popularity fades away some time in the future, they could conveniently forget all past corporate bullying and decide they need us again. In that case, if they were to call for our help, I wonder what our answer would be?

• Bill McClure - Incarcerated in Odo's detention cell, falsely accused of nonexistent security breaches involving "exploitation" of "official intellectual properties."

To: Eunice Pearson, Dave Styles, Annette Bohm, and Marcia Stanislawski - re: my previous comments on DS9 - Okay, so maybe I worded it badly, but when I checked my hat at the door and it said "IDIC," I thought I was entitled to my own opinion. :-) Perhaps I should have said that I've always watched ST because it (used to) provide a positive escape from - and morality lesson on - all the negative things going on in the world today. So, how does a bunch of bickering, claustrophobic aliens suffering from cabin fever portray anything *positive* about the future? Heck, even Jake & Nog can't even get along as they "celebrate" the differences between "Hew-mons" and Ferengis... As for the change in the Klingons, Eunice - I'm sure

you know that Worf is "defecting" to DS9 because of a rift in the peace alliance, i.e. to boost that show's poorly sagging ratings. Gee, so much for Gene's vision/version of *glasnost*, huh? Michael Dorn has even been quoted in TV Guide as saying that Worf "absolutely *hates* some of the members of this crew." Hmmmm, need I say more, especially when it comes straight from the horse's mouth? By the way, another thing they've started on DS9 that really bothers me is the oh-so subtle metaphor they've been developing with Odo's "people." To me, the way the Changelings have always been hunted down and persecuted by all the other races of humanoid "Solids" - forcing them into a "life of crime" as a despicable race of evil tyrants - is nothing more than Hollywood's latest (homophobic) attempt to portray anyone who is inherently different as "bad" or as a "villain" who deserves to be bashed... The same goes for Kira's (bisexual) alter-ego in the "Mirror" universe too...

To Anne Peters, Kathleen Glancy, Sheila Clark, and Stephen Shaw - re: "Sex and The Outcast" (n/1 40, p. 76) - *tsk, tsk* You all just don't *get it*, do you? The whole point of that episode was *not* to provide a Darwinian lesson on the formal mechanics of procreation, but rather an attempt to humanistically show that *everyone* needs and deserves the basic freedoms of self-expression and the right to love - and *be* loved - regardless of any biological or (outdated) political correctness involved. I don't suppose any "Solid" could ever *truly* understand what it's like... :-) And no, Sheila, enforced sterilization could never cleanse the gene pool of this type of unwanted "perversion" - as one of my favourite stand-up comics once said, "I don't have anything against straight people; they do one of my favourite things - they reproduce and make more of *us*!"

To Clare Finkel and everyone else who's outraged by those greedy Ferengis at Viacom - From where I stand (right in the middle of the tempest, I might add), I'd have to agree with Martin Stahl - the only way we could ever convince them who it is that butters their bread would be to boycott all of their high-priced "officially" licensed material.

Unfortunately, we still live in a time where "men achieve power and wealth by standing on the backs of the poor." If they think they're losing money to us *now* from their so-called "intellectual" property (ha!), just imagine the panic that would ensue if all those toys and action figures suddenly stopped moving off the store shelves... (Hey, let's all "defect" to that funny "gift shop" on Babylon 5 instead!) By the way, to answer everyone's (rhetorical?) questions re: "What would Gene think of all this?" - Personally, I'll bet his ashes have been turning in somersaults ever since they were floating in zero-g aboard the space shuttle...

To Vered Gilad - re: your "Frustrated Pocket Books Annoyances" - Speaking as one who has actually received a (grammatically incorrect) rejection letter from Kevin Ryan himself, I can assure you that, just like Harlan Ellison has said - and you yourself pointed out in the last n/1 - the only thing they're truly concerned about are the "mindless minions" of ST fans who "will buy anything [they] publish." I realize you also professed yourself as one of their most loyal customers, but to me, that sure sounds like one those people P.T. Barnum was talking about when he said "there's [one] born every minute."

To Brenda Allan and Raymond Spencer - re: actors from other shows appearing on TNG - Hey, don't forget Jerry Hardin - Radue ("When the Bough Breaks")/Sam Clemens ("Time's Arrow")/DeepThroat ("The X-Files"); W. Morgan Sheppard - Dr. Ira Graves ("The Schizoid Man")/Rura Penthe Klingon prison warden (ST6:TUC); Corbin Bernsen - Q2 ("Deja Q")/ Arnie Becker ("L.A. Law"); Bebe Neuwirth - Lanel ("First Contact")/Dr. Lillith Sternin-Crane ("Cheers")/"Frasier"); David Ogden Stiers - Dr. Timicin ("Half a Life")/Dr. Charles Emerson Winchester ("M*A*S*H"); Michele Scarabelli - Lt. Jenna D'Sora ("In Theory")/Susan Francisco ("Alien Nation"); Matt Frewer - Prof. Berlinghoff Rasmussen ("A Matter of Time")/"Max Headroom"; Kelsey Grammer - Capt. Bateman ("Cause and Effect")/Dr. Frasier Crane ("Cheers")/"Frasier"); Ray Walston - Boothby ("The First Duty")/Uncle Martin ("My Favorite Martian"); Olivia d'Abo -

Amanda Rogers ("True Q")/hippie sister ("The Wonder Years"); Eric Pierpoint - Voval ("Liaisons")/George Francisco ("Alien Nation"); Robin Curtis - Tallera/T'Paal ("Gambit")/Saavik (ST3:TFSF); Penny Johnson - Dohara ("Homeward")/Kassidy Yates (DS9); not to mention Marc Alaimo, James Sloyan, Carolyn Seymour, and Suzie Plakson in the multiple roles they played over the show's 7 year run.

To Lindsay Wright, Rosalyn Holland, and Marie Park - re: Data's emotion chip - First of all, Data and Brent are *not* the same person. Data may have indeed stated that his growth had "reached an impasse," but it was the film's (lazy) *writers* who put those words into his mouth, and Brent presumably went along with it simply because it made his job - *acting* a boring, nonemotional part - easier and more fun. Giving Data the chip has only stripped him of his charm and innocence. For me, it was always more "intriguing" to see him struggling with trying to understand the (subdued) emotions he was experiencing before, rather than seeing him laugh his head off like some sort of idiotic hyena. If the core of Data's personality has indeed been his search for humanity, then they *should* write him out of the story and send him off to Atrea IV; for where is there any real difference between humans and androids if not in the mere presence/absence of emotions? ("We too are machines, just machines of a different type... It is not relevant." -Jean-Luc Picard, Stardate 42523.7, "The Measure of a Man")

To Stephen Shaw - re: Klingons impregnated with parasitic Tribble cephalitis - The best explanation I've heard to date! (But I still think it's a pretty sad commentary when the fans have to come up with explanations for the writers' lackadaisical attitude toward continuity on important issues like that... or Scotty's "amnesia"... or Dax's spots and use of the transporter...)

To Glenn Cooper - re: "Keeping a Wider Perspective" - Amen, brother! You summed it all up, *perfectly*!

To Peter Rose - re: the inscription on

Voyager's dedication plaque - Gee, if it were up to me, it'd be a little ditty that might go something like *this*...!

The Ballad of "Star Trek: *Voyager*"
(to be sung to the tune of the theme from
"Gilligan's Island")

by Bill McClure

Just sit right back and you'll hear a tale,
a tale of a fateful trip
that started from a Bajoran spaceport
aboard this Starfleet ship.

The mate was a mighty Indian brave,
the skipper a headstrong lass.
The *Voyager* set sail that day
to bag some Maquis trash,
to bag some Maquis trash.

The Badlands started getting rough
as each ship flew across.
If not for the courage of the fearless crew,
the *Voyager* would be lost.
the *Voyager* would be lost.

Now the ship's been flung across the stars
to an uncharted galactic plane
with Chakotay, Cap'n Janeway too,
a Talaxian and his Kes,
a half-Klingon babe,
a holo-Doc, and Vulcan Tuvok,
here in Delta Quadrant!

The Ballad of "Star Trek: *Voyager*"
(to be sung to the tune of the theme
from "The Brady Bunch")

by Bill McClure

Now here's the story
of Kathryn Janeway,
who was taking over
as *Star Trek's* latest captain.
Her crew was Starfleet's finest,
like their ship was,
except for the ex-con.

Now here's the story
of a man, Chakotay,
who left to join the Maquis with their fight.

They were a small group, but fiercely loyal,
except the covert spies.

And then one day, when they
flew across the Badlands,
they all found themselves working side
by side.

That's when they knew
their two crews could form a new group.
That's the way they all became
the *Voyager* crew.

On their way back home,
from across the stars.
That's the way they became
the *Voyager* crew.

Ba-dum-pa-da-bum-pa-da-dum!

(Aside to Janet - Gee, I guess Sherwood
Schwartz will be coming after me now *too*!)

• Clare Finkel 54 Stewart Place, Fanwood,
NJ 07023, USA E-mail: finkel@intac.con We
have four in our box; so please subject, Clare.

(Jay p73) Hindsight sees weaknesses in
CT, but at its time, it was very much ahead
and pointing in the right direction. Take
racism for an example: I confess, I am a white
American who grew up assuming (not
thinking; to my mind, there was nothing to
think about) that the Black race was inferior
to the White. CT helped me to rid of that
ignorance. For examples: Uhura's encounter
with "Abraham Lincoln," (which might seem
trite and embarrassing now); the admiral
who had Kirk shaking in his boots; the mad
scientist who created M5 (I didn't know black
people could be so smart! Well, only on CT
did minority people get such roles.); and
Lokai...! That was the episode that hooked me
on the series.

You mentioned women in CT.. Gene tried
(See the original pilot.), but he couldn't get
everything he wanted. Unfortunately,
because I was so ignorant regarding women,
too, I didn't notice.

It seems to me that Gene had something
to say, and hoped someone would listen.
Today, there are fans listening, but..

(Gul Melset p29) I'm not a racist. At least I hope I'm not, but then, I am so ignorant that I cannot really tell.. Well, that aside, my negative comment to you regarding the Cardassians (as a shallow and stupid race) was a result of the way they were portrayed in the DS9 episode where O'Brien was on trial. While viewing it, I was hoping the trial was a clever ploy by the Cardassians to trick the Federation into finding the real criminal, which in the end, it did. But I was wrong. That was a 'real' Cardassian trial. (Note: Since that episode, I have seen the Cardassians more intelligently portrayed, but I still don't understand why you want to be one. Do you agree with the subjugation of Bajor? or the sneak attacks on the Federation members residing on the border planets? ..or the torture to which Picard was subjected? What I would like to see is just cause for this behaviour; then, perhaps I would want to be a Cardassian, too.)

(Neil p70) The idea of a black Vulcan bothered me, too. Gene said that all the aliens looked human because they were played by human actors. To that, my ideal was to take advantage of the IDIC in human beings; ie, use tall, lanky, olive skinned actors to play Vulcans; use large, robust looking ones for Klingons, etc.. But I don't think our earth is ready for that. Besides, I like Tim Russ and have heard only great things about him, and I think he is doing a GREAT job portraying his Vulcan character!

And a Vulcan would kill, but only for survival. I doubt sentence would have anything to do with it. Vulcans equally respect all life..

Regarding fans choosing Klingons over Vulcans. Are you discussing fans or actors? I agree, like you quoted Kirk, "A civilized man can easily play the part of a barbarian," but to like them better..? Would these fans prefer to live in a war torn area of the world..? After all, as they are portrayed, Klingons love war.

Another question: Do we have a spiritual side to our nature? ..a side that seeks (needs?) a god (Editor, please keep lower case 'g'), mysticism, fantasy? Are you equating spiritualism with emotionalism? (I don't

equate the two.)

The Pon-Farr, according to McCoy, is the price Vulcans pay for all that control. It is my belief that without that release, they would die.. They need it, just as we need to cry.

• Dave Styles - Asford, Kent

Re Star Trek Monthly Magazine: OK, it might be "poor", but it does have the advantage of being regular as well as "official". It will be this magazine that closes down OSTFCUK. In previous postbags I defended OSTFCUK. I praised their bravery, audacity and enterprise in starting something which nobody else had tried, viz an official UK fan club. However what does one hear of OST...etc. A magazine (very occasionally) with nothing whatsoever of news value. I see that Mr Gaskell is thanked in the list of contributors of each Star Trek monthly. Does this mean that he's packed up the OSTXYZ and gone over to Star Trek Monthly.

And while I'm on my high horse has anyone ever tried to get the 10% discount that OST.. claim that their members get in Forbidden Planet. I'm told by shop staff that this discount does not apply to books, magazines, videos, toys, models, clothing,... in fact when I asked what it did apply to there was an embarrassed silence. I was eventually given a pound off of a tie.

To Ruth Duthrie re Voyager: It's as much "formula" as any other TV program. Every program, Star Trek and otherwise, has its token bimbos and himbos, token naive youngster, token cynic, etc. Also what with the myriad of TV programs, films, books, etc, of so many genres I defy anyone to come up with a TOTALLY original story.

Re Kaferian Apples: Am I the only one who hasn't a clue what this is all about. Could somebody explain? [Sheila - *The Kaferian Apple was mentioned by Mitchell in the CT episode, Where No Man Has Gone Before.*]

Loved the joke about how many Trekkers it takes to change a light bulb. It would be funny if it wasn't true :-)

To Glenn Cooper: I agree, there is very little in the way of Trek merchandise that is worth bothering with these days. Take the latest marketing trick. Someone has taken the Micro-Machine Star Trek models, glued a chain onto them, and is selling them as key rings. It's an insult to us really, but all the time we keep paying, they'll keep trotting out crap.

• **Michael Flett - Edinburgh**

Having seen the entire first season of *Voyager*, I feel a great lack of urgency throughout it. If these people are so desperate to get back home, why are they wandering so aimlessly about the Delta Quadrant? The series lacks focus. I was walking home late at night a few weeks ago, and I looked up at the stars, and always, I thought of the Enterprise out there, somewhere. Not Voyager, or Excelsior, no bloody A, B, C or D, but *the* Enterprise, of the feeling of comfort she gives me. As a child, I would look at the sky, and believe they were there, just out of reach, exploring the stars, always looking out for us. If we needed them, we could call, and they would come, and they would always be there for us. I think this feeling of security has been lost - each series has gone further and further away, leaving us behind. There's no sense of being a part of it, of seeing new things in the comfort of old friends. They're not doing it for us any longer, they're doing it for themselves.

So, the Borg will be present in the pre-*Descent* manner in the next film. Though easily explained, does this make good drama? Is *Star Trek* about characters or going into space to blow away mindless automatons? "They're not like us, they don't feel the way we do, so it's okay to kill them. Baddie of the week syndrome strikes again - bad writing, and not *Star Trek*."

Re the Cardassian wars - The truce was signed in 2367, not too long before the episode *The Wounded*. Hostilities may have ceased prior to this, but it is implied it is a recent change. Presumably the Enterprise was just occupied elsewhere all this time. Frightening thought - could the Galaxy class ships have been designed as warships

originally, and only put on exploratory duty as tensions eased?

Funny how Leonard, after all these years, is writing a book called *I Am Spock*, and Bill S is not only writing and promoting 'his' ST novel - hardback, audio, comic adaption - but says if there's a need for Kirk in future films, he's sure there will be a way to resurrect him. Okay, so "get a life" was only a *Saturday Night Live* sketch, but it is reflective of the way Shatner has looked on us for twenty five years. What prompts this change from both him and Leonard? Of course, Bill's not plugging all *Trek*, only his brand - witness his absence from Harlan Ellison's forthcoming book. Could it be the thought of no more films every couple of years, no more *Smillions* rolling in...? Comment is invited.

Re Tarchannen III - I have wondered how it is at all feasible for these things to survive, when they can apparently only breed by kidnapping hosts. How did they evolve on a deserted planet? Otherwise, I'm sorry, but your species is unviable. Why isn't the whole planet littered with abandoned spacecraft? Or...to quote Ellen Ripley, "I'm sorry madam, but I already told you it was not indigenous" - could they be crash survivors themselves? (If this is repeating previous comments, please say - I've not got my old N/Ls to hand)

To D E Evans - sorry, but the *All Good Things...* limited edition was exactly that. It was deleted day of release, and you can expect to pay up to £65 at auction for one.

To Rory Smith and Gary Heron - I'm not sure "excellent SFX" in *Generations*. Competent or passable, but far from dazzling or inspired. I went to the cinema to see the Enterprise in bigscreen glory, and all I got was stock shots from *Encounter At Farpoint* - no kidding, check for yourself. Re the Nexus - maybe Guinan found it harder to leave because, like Soran, she had nothing to come back for, whereas Picard and Kirk have challenges, duties, crews to save, etc. And yes, Guinan is still in the Nexus, at least an echo of her, and Picard...and Kirk. And yes, I very much agree that the Classic crew should have been left out of the film - not because I

have no interest, quite the contrary, but because I object to them being used as tokens, then discarded. Strangely enough, it was the fourth time I saw the film before it actually hit me what it was about - grief, and recovering from a loss. Data lost his innocence, Soran his family, Kirk his command, Picard his family. It is Guinan, unsurprisingly, who acts as the focus of acceptance in the film.

To Martin Helsdon - Q as father to Spot's kittens? Does this mean they're half Q, like Amanda Rogers? Scary! :-)

To Maria Woodward - Yes, CIC *did* have to suspend DS9 because of the American hiatus. The episodes aren't released by Paramount until just before airing. This is okay for US TV broadcast, but when they are shipped over, they must be converted, duplicated, packaged...and certified, and *that* is where the holdup occurs. That is why *Voyager* was shown in January, but didn't hit the shelves until June - if CIC could have had our cash faster, they would have done.

To Michael Sadler - Your so called Empire should be on its knees to what Starfleet is! To what it represents! :-)

To T'Yomin - Vulcan honours us with your presence. Long may it continue.

To Catharine Hill - Yes, I was also more upset over the Enterprise than Kirk. For all he was, he was still mortal, and sooner or later would die, a loss that must be expected and prepared for. But the Enterprise? That was our home for the last eight years, the vessel of all our hopes and dreams, and it lies broken on an alien world, needlessly destroyed.

To Adam North - what is everyone's problem with Sisko? He's dull is what! He's like a puppet with the strings cut. How can you tell if Sisko is angry? Same way you can tell when he's being passionate - he stands absolutely still with his arms hanging by his sides. Okay, so Janeway's mad gesturing can be a bit over the top at times, but at least she's acting! :-)

To Pam Bradley - Wesley was not "petulant and and a brat", he was sick of living his life for the benefit of other people. Would you have had him stand aside as Picard forcibly removed the Colonists? As Guinan said a long time ago, "Sometimes the trick is to know when not to do what others want you to. Allow yourself to be selfish."

To Gul Meset - the prejudices you have experienced are no doubt explained, if not excused, by the basic lack of knowledge and understanding we have of the Cardassian peoples. I'm sure I speak for all when I say, with the deepest respect - tell us more about yourself.

To Susanne Charlesworth - re McCoy. All you say is probably true, But that is exactly why he is *my* favourite character.

To Dave Rogers - If TNG should not have been cancelled after seven seasons, then when? After a shaky start, it had some of the best episodes, but what a surprise and relief after the dire sixth. It was only because this was the final that they pulled out all the stops to make it good. If you love something, set it free.

To Penny Robinson - Why didn't Data have golden eyes all through *Parallels*? If you take a moment to think, it will become apparent. :-)

To Marie Park - I don't have my WOK novelisation to hand, but if I remember correctly, the ruby earring is a sign worn by an unbonded female. It's not official as it's not stated onscreen, but it's interesting.

To Maria Nausch - yes, Tim Russ is an excellent Vulcan, other than Selar the only one we have seen in the 24th century (save than the obvious father and son diplomatic team). It comes as no surprise he's a CT fan - his intonation and mannerisms are so Vulcan it's untrue. Regards to the Prosbear.

• Nigel Nixon - Reading

To Rory Smith N/L 41,p17. U.S.S. Ti Ho. Yes, Neil Barret has said it came from a book. Thanks anyway.

To Sarah Rooke N/L 41,p20. Animal spirit guides. The problem is that the concept of animal spirit guides was ripped from its context. To Chakotay the A.S.G. has a very specific place in his belief system, it forms part of his history and culture. Janeway shares none of these things but, after a short while, was able to see her A.S.G. To me, and a few Native Americans I have spoken to, this and the use of the Acuna (sp?) to replace days of ritual, fasting, meditation and psychotropic drugs, seems to show that Paramount liked the idea of the A.S.G but didn't want the religion that went with it, thus reducing it to a mere trick of the imagination.

To Damian Griffiths/ Brenda Allen N/L 41. Crew size of the -E. I think I'm really complaining about the terminology used, I can't see how a child can be classified as member of the crew.

To Edward Woo N/L 41, p40. Kate Mulgrew. Yes, she is very good, though that voice... Someone on the net suggested that Amelia Earhart's first words to Janeway should have been "Katherine Hepburn! What are you doing here?"

• Roger Neal - Didcot

Hello again, to all of the IDIC readers. These comments all refer to N/L 41.

To Rory Smith, Page 17. NCC 1701-A was originally called the Yorktown (ST Encyclopaedia) and not the Tiho, sorry.

To Teresa Whaley, Page 19. I am also an avid book reader, but my local library charges to get books in! However, I am very selective as to which books I purchase. I normally read the reviews in the IDIC mag first!

To Martin Helsdan, Page 19. Re your letter to Jason Nemes. I second your comments on merchandising and on Bajor - It is a huge resource waiting to be tapped.

To Eunice Pearson, Page 21. I agree with you, I don't see any hatred between Odo and Quark. I think they get on very well together! :-)

To Michael Sadler, Page 22. What's the best type of washing machine?

To Jean Perrin, Page 23. I think there will be a big market for all of the 1701E merchandise - There was for the 1701A and D.

To Nigel Nixon, Page 25. I thought there was a USS Galaxy and a USS Constellation, so I suppose there must be a USS Nebula too.

To Vered Gilad, Page 77. I have only purchased 14 of the novels so far. They seem OK but to be honest, they don't compare to Tom Clancy, Dale Brown, Steve Coonts or Michael Crichton! I am not sure if it is because there is a lack of good ST authors - though going by the writing in zines, I find this hard to believe! So I can only assume it is a lack of ST knowledge or quality control on the publisher side of the equation.

I love Voyager!!! nearly a year ago, I wrote off DS9 as a load of rubbish, it's slowly getting better. But having seen the first few Voyager episodes, it think my first opinion of DS9 still holds true. Voyager has everything that DS9 does not have. DS9 has little action, Voyager does, in DS9, some of the characters work well and some don't, in Voyager they seem to have the magic already. Long live Voyager.

• Vivien Little - Dumfriesshire

To Teresa Whaley (P 19) - At least you are lucky enough to have so many libraries within easy reach. Our local library has a few ST novels, but not many. If I want to get any fairly up-to-date ones (ie ones I haven't already read) I have to go either down to Carlisle or up to Edinburgh or Glasgow! Mind you, any new books tend to reach our branch library first - it can be helpful being an ex-member of staff.

To Vered Gilad (P28/9) - A good friend of mine gets Sky One in Gibraltar.

To everyone who likes Voyager so much - Thank God I'm not the only one. A number of my friends saw the pilot and decided that they hated it; now I cannot persuade them to watch any more.

To Rose Morrisoe - When will we see a letter from you gracing these pages? (Hi, Rose!)

Finally, I'd just like to reply to the open letter and to all the comments throughout the postbag about the death of Vedek Bareil - can we *please* have a change of subject. To be brutally honest, I really don't care if he stays dead or not. If the actor wants out, then good luck to him. Before I am denounced as a complete heretic, please remember that the beauty of the Postbag is that it is a place where we can express our opinions - no matter how controversial. But there is a difference between expressing opinions and going on and on, and I'm afraid the whole topic is beginning to drive me *nuts*. If anyone wishes to write to me, fine - I will (eventually!) answer all letters.

• James O Donovan - Cork

Has anyone seen the video trailer/spoiler for Generations? I recently rented Forrest Gump and it had one of the trailers, which was very misleading. It contains scenes that are not in the movie. One scene shows the Enterprise firing its phasers. I believe it's a scene from Conundrum, where the Enterprise fires on the Lysian sentry pods. There is also an explosion that looks like the destruction of the Borg ship in The Best of Both Worlds. There are also a few other clips that do not belong to the film, but they were too hard to place in an episode. It seems that Paramount is trying to spice things up!

Does anyone know anything about making models? I am currently making a DS9 runabout and need to paint some pieces before assembling it. The problem is the paint. Soon after it is applied, small bubbles form on the surface and ruin the paint job. I have tried to thin out the paint, and apply thick coats and thin coats, but it still happens. The paint is Humbrol No. 126, and I wash the brush regularly. Any help would be appreciated.

To Dave Styles - I saw you on Takeover TV and I thought you were very good, but the child stole the show. For some strange reason you didn't appear in the Takeover TV Sci-fi Special which was part of the Channel 4

sci-fi weekend.

To Catherine Hill & Vicky Roberts - I agree about the destruction of the Enterprise-D, there was no need for it. The film was monumental enough with both generations in one film, Picard meeting Kirk, it's being TNG's first film and Kirk's death. However, I believe the reason for the D's destruction was that some of the Enterprise's sets had been converted for use on Voyager.

I enjoyed the reports on SOL III last issue, but I have two questions. First, what does 'SOL' stand for, and second, who is Richard Arnold? *[Sheila - Sol is another name for our Sun (cf solar, ie 'sun' power), and SOL III is Earth (the Sun's third planet). Richard Arnold worked for Gene Roddenberry in the Star Trek office for many years - you'll see his name in the credits of a lot of episodes - but after Gene's death that office was closed. Richard is now a consultant for Trek with Paramount. He is a regular guest at conventions.]*

• Anike Bissinger - Germany

First of all, I want to say a big THANK YOU to the Conundrum committee for going through the troubles of organising this wonderful, fantastic, great convention in mid-July. This was really the best con I *ever* went to, so far. Thank you for this wonderful weekend where I was able to meet so many old friends and get to know new ones and where I had a really good time!

At Conundrum, I also got to see the entire first season of Voyager, and I must say that this really is an absolutely great series. The characters hit it off from the very beginning and the stories are original, involving and very interesting most of the time (with Eye of the Needle and Jetrel being my favourites). I especially like Janeway - a true leader - Chakotay and the Doctor, and I can't wait to see the second season!

To Baerbel Schmidt (41/35) - I totally agree, I think there was a whole lot of 'chemistry' between Kira and Bareil - actually I liked it that one of Star Trek's main characters finally managed to have a permanent love relationship.

To Marie I J Park (41/17) - From all the reports I read so far I think Chakotay is indeed from the Indian colony we saw in Journey's End, for, if I remember correctly, this fact has not yet been officially established in one of the episodes.

To Peter Rose - The words on the Voyager's dedication plaque are:

"For I dipt into the future, far as human eye could see; Saw the Vision of the World, and all the wonder that would be" - a quotation from Alfred Tennyson. *[Ed - Thanks to the others who gave this information.]*

To Stephen Shaw (41/73) - This has to be it! This is the best explanation I ever read about the Klingons bumps! :-)

• Victoria Roberts - Brentford, Middx

To Raymond Spencer - I agree with your comments about Janeway's hairstyle! I love the series, and the characters, especially the Captain, but that hair has gotta GO!

To Carol Sterenberg - Hello! Just a brief word to say I enjoyed your thoughts on fan/professional fiction. A very interesting viewpoint.

To Neil Safi & Mike Sadler - Aaaaauugggghhh!!!! Guys, can we *please* end the great fruit debate? All this talk of fruit (Kaferian apples, Bolian bananas) is getting a little wearing (not to mention making me rather hungry!)

To Lindsay Wright - How do you get people to talk to you at cons? Walking up to people and saying, "Hi, I'm Lindsay" is a great way to start! If you tell people it's your first con most folk will be even happier to stop and chat (I think many people will remember how nervous they felt at their first con. Me, I was terrified! It didn't last long thanks to my friendly roommate Maria, and a certain person called Sasha who walked up to me and introduced herself. So go for it, Lindsay, you'll have a great time!)

To Marie I J Park - According to one novel (I think it was Dwellers in the Crucible) the earring is worn only by unmarried

Vulcans.

To Maria Nausch - After listening to the recording of Tim's Seatrek talks, I would agree with you. Con committees please invite Tim Russ as a guest; you'd definitely get your money's worth!

• Marie I J Park - Hull

Firstly to Rory Smith - It wasn't *only* a Christmas Tree bauble that convinced Picard to leave the Nexus. There were other factors: one, he was giving up something he'd never had in the first place, which was a wife and family. Two, he had something to go back to, which was his loyal crew of the Enterprise-D.

The warp core *could not be ejected safely* since Geordi reported to Riker that there was nothing he could do to stop the warp core breach from happening. Any attempt to do so at that point would have resulted in a catastrophe reminiscent of the Yamamoto's destruction in the TNG episode Contagion.

To Stephen Daniels - If you had been heading towards a planet with no brakes, the *best* chance for survival would be to stay in the saucer section! It is worth remembering that there were very few fatalities *because* the crew stayed in the saucer section. I know that's where I'd be if it came to the crunch! To head for an escape pod while the saucer section was screaming towards the Veridian III atmosphere would be to sign your death warrant. :(If the stardrive explosion didn't kill you first, the hypersonic slipstream generated by the saucer section's velocity would slam you into the saucer section.

Has anyone noticed at the end of Generations that Data seems to have grey eyes instead of yellow ones now? A change of image for Data, perhaps? :-)

To Raymond Spencer - What is wrong with Captain Janeway's hairstyle? Nothing, as far as I can see. If anything, I think that it is extremely practical, and pinning it back avoids the inconvenience of it getting all over the place. If she'd worn the hair loose, it wouldn't take a genius to simply reach out and grab a handful if she tried to make a run for it... not that Janeway is the type to make a

run for cover for no reason, of course... >->

To Chris Tearne - Isn't Nog interested in entering Starfleet Academy? He said as much in the DS9 episode Heart of Stone.

To Stephen Shaw - Holodeck and replicator technology run from completely different sources. In the episode Parallax, an attempt was made to use the holodeck's power source for the ship's main grid. Not only did this prove to be incompatible, it almost blew out the entire grid.

Finally, I have recently watched Ex Post Facto: just one question - how old is Tuvok supposed to be? He said to Professor Ren's widow that "My wife and I have been married for sixty-seven years", yet he doesn't look a day over thirty five. Yes, I *know* he's a Vulcan, but it's still a little surprising...

• Stephen Daniels - Edinburgh

If anyone was watching the Six O'clock News on Thursday, September 7, you would have seen that the final report was on "faster-than-light travel". I only caught the last part of the report, but did manage to see some pretty brainy people talking of the possibility of wormholes and warp drive (there was even a reference to the "BBC" TV series Star Trek: The Next Generation, and a clip of the Enterprise-D going into warp.).

There are a few things that annoy me about Voyager. I was watching TNG the other day on BBC2 (I think it was "A Fistful of Datas"), and Picard was having a meeting with some of his senior staff about the problems with the Holodeck. As his crew were offering suggestions Picard sat (or stood) quietly LISTENING to them, and giving them a chance to prove themselves and their ideas. In Voyager whenever suggestions are being tendered Janeway ALWAYS seems to butt-in half way through and finish the persons idea for them. I find this annoying to the extreme and just downright rude. The other thing is that she always seems to be rushing about the place and rabbiting on like a geriatric Ertha Kitt. I really wish Genavive Bujold hadn't quit the series. Other than that, it is okay.

To Chris Coxon (n41 p18) - I seem to remember one of the original "Twilight Zone's" featured an episode where Earthmen landed on a distant and apparently deserted planet, only later to discover entire cities in a few square yards! It had a nice twist in the tale too.

To Brenda Allan (n41 p41) - The only snag with the Voyager heading for the Barzan Wormhole is that they might meet up with those two stupid Ferengi, and if the wormhole has collapsed they will be stuck with them - is it worth the risk?

To Lee Oatway (n41 p43) - I too am looking forward to future (and BETTER) TNG movies. The race I hope they keep away from are the Klingons, they have had so many stories, I am totally sick of them. To be honest, I find them quite boring.

To Mathias Lindholm (n41 p46) - I think you can tell the captain feels a lot for his ship when he stands on the empty bridge in the season six episode "Starship Mine" looking around in deep thought.

• Neil J Barrett - Transferred to Trotter Territory

On very small aliens. (N/L41 p18) 'The Terratin Incident' immediately springs to mind but then my memory drags up a non-Trek short story in which we do not realise the visiting aliens are miniscule until they crashland in a vast lake; in reality a puddle on the runway. Can't remember title or author (unless it was Murray Leinster) but the story is definitely back in the 30s or 40s.

On Bajoran earrings. (N/L40 & 41) Are there any Bajoran atheists? Somewhere in DS9 Season 1 we met some Bajoran scientists and I couldn't see any earrings but that may just be a costume cock-up. Can't remember the episode title but perhaps the Brentford Bajoran does - it was her video. I'm sure Tetralubisol Quassia will too.

On Vulcan earrings. (N/L41 p47) According to Margaret Wander Bonnanno in 'Dwellers in the Crucible' this indicates a female who is betrothed but unwed. Anybody with a video care to check whether

T'Pol and Selar have them too? I checked the best picture I had of Robin Curtis's Saavik and she doesn't have one. I wonder if this could mean she considered herself wed to David Marcus?

On Scotty and Geordi. (N/L41 p25) Depends how you define a good engineer. Scotty is an engineer first and a Starfleet officer second; Geordi is the reverse. Scotty gets things done because he loves his work and takes pride in his ship and his 'bairns'; Geordi does things because they have to be done or because the captain wants them done. Certainly we will never see Geordi argue with Picard to save the engines from destruction. Both approaches are equally valid but 'Relics' didn't really explore them in either the episode or the novelisation. I did notice that as Scotty departed the Enterprise-D he does NOT shake hands with Worf. Is this a subtle touch by the director or just sloppy editing? I would have expected a bit of reaction along the lines of "Och! There's a bloody Klingon on the bridge!".

On Styles and stardom. (N/L41 p67) Sorry, Dave but I thought you were upstaged by one line from the Classic Trek spoof: "Don't worry lads. I'll snog her - that usually works." I don't know where you got Nationwide from but the advert you were referring to is actually for Cadbury's "Wispa" and the four Trekkies are in a white Morris Minor. They weren't actors but real fans - some of the leading lights of Ten-Forward (the club) and Lightspeed (the con).

On Julian Bashir. (N/L40 & 41) I like him because he's quite a realistic character. I can understand his problems of adjusting from the academic to the real world and his initial awkwardness with people. I was rather like that when I first graduated. I sometimes find that the characters are written as too perfect, they are all incredibly multi-talented, they all have artistic hobbies at which they excel. When they have problems they are always deeply dramatic ones. OK, some of this is the need for drama but I like a touch of realism now and then. I like Reg Barclay for the same reason - with all his foibles and fears he is the most normal of the TNG gang.

On "The Fearful Summons". (N/L41 p80) I agree with Sheila. I rather got the impression that this had not started out as a novel but had been adapted from an unsuccessful film script. A lot of the scenes were very visual and there were some definite Hollywood clichés in there - Kirk's seduction of (by?) a new Academy graduate, Scotty as a drunken has-been, Chekov drifting through seedy clubs. Perhaps if Mr Flinn had actually bothered to read the novelisation of TUC he might have come up with a proper sequel.

On fan fiction. (N/L41 p31) Thanks Carol! A serious comment from the writer is a nice change from the random spleen-venting by third parties. Three requests for an article so far and it will appear in due course.

• Jason Rorbach - Bucknall

Has anyone seen the change in protocol on Voyager? Picard and Riker used to have quite a few arguments about who should lead the away team and I was under the impression that was the First Officer's duty, yet suddenly on Voyager, Captain Janeway leads most of the away missions they come across. Maybe this will change as the story unfolds, but with the crew being so far from home, you would have thought endangering the Captain's life was not a option.

Maybe it's because they are so far from home they have come to this decision, or maybe because Janeway was Science Officer on the Al-Batani and used to going on away missions. Whatever the reason, it makes a nice change from TNG and almost goes back to how the original series used to be.

By the way, I've heard a rumour Michael Jackson is to play a Klingon in the next Star Trek film. Is it true?

• Maureen Norton - Canvey Island, Essex

After recently watching DS9 The Forsaken, where Odo is stuck in the turbolift with Lwaxana Troi, a thought came to me. Here's one to ponder on, folks! Who would be the worst person to be stuck in turbolift with and why? (Anyone from the Star Trek universe.) My vote would have to be Hutch

from TNG Starship Mine, who could bore *anyone* to death!

As Jadzia stated in one DS9 episode, Dax has been a parent in previous host. Does this mean that she could have some grandchildren somewhere who are older than she is?!

Does anyone know if anywhere in this country sells Star Trek rubber stamps? (eg art/craft shops) So far I've only seen them used on letters from the USA.

On flicking through the ST Encyclopedia recently, I came across the entry for planets; next to Earth it says 'mostly harmless'. Wasn't that an entry another 'Guide to the Galaxy'? Perhaps Journey to Babel was to stock up on Babel fish, for use in the universal translators!

As Mark Twain appeared in TNG's Time's Arrow, I wonder if the episode writers knew that in real life he actually worked on a newspaper called the Enterprise? Coincidence, or what?

• Jennifer Blanchard - Godalming

In Jean Sloan's SOL III report, I was surprised to read that Eric Menyuk was disappointed with the performance he was instructed to give in Remember Me. It's one of my favourite episodes and I thought what a warm and gentle character the Traveller is in it. I could picture Eric being appealing as Data. I've seen two episodes of Voyager. My son and I have taken to it straight away and we're keen to see more.

To Dave Styles - Yes, I saw you on TV! Just luck - I turned over the TV and there you were. Don't listen to your daughter, you actually looked cute - for a Klingon!

The cartoon by Valerie Herd - Why Picard doesn't allow children on the bridge' was marvellous!!

To Gul Melset - Reptiles aren't universally disliked, at least not in Godalming - we have a very popular 'cold-blooded' pet shop! I find Cardassians chilling and thrilling; I'm not sure how Picard would

describe them, though.

• Jessica Lemmer (still 17) - Germany

To my good friend Kerry, who never runs out of time to write me novel-like letters. They'll soon be mentioned in the Guinness Book of Records, I'm sure. Salut, mon amie! I'll let you have the room number 912 on Deck 8 aboard the D-Enterprise for a day (and a night).

To Sarah Rooke - many thanks for your encouraging words in N/L #1. People often blame me for being a Trekker. I shouldn't watch those stupid shows as one can't learn from them, or just negative things (???) I totally disagree. Gene Roddenberry's vision of the future is great, and we can learn a lot from Star Trek. Ignoring what those (in my eyes poor) people say is a good idea.

Finally I'd like to say hi to my pen-friends Robert, Raymond, Maria, Michael, Joan, Dan and Harminder. Thanks a lot for writing!

Fellow IDIC members, live long and prosper!

• Raymond Spencer - South Benfleet

OSTFCUK. Such innocent letters causing such a response. I think people who find such amusement should join a club called For Ultra Crude Kindred, Keep Naughty Opinions Withheld Someplace.

Worf on DS9? Where will it end? You'll be telling me next that George Takei is on Voyager! I think someone should tell Paramount to leave DS9 as it is. A cameo is OK, but we don't need Next Generation crew to sign up full time. What if Worf doesn't bring the viewing figures up to what is expected? Will they give DS9 warp drive and rename it Deep Space Enterprise? Anyone who has seen season 3 knows how good the show is getting, and The Adversary is an excellent teaser of things to come.

• Pam Baddeley - Farnborough

To Nigel Nixon - Strangely enough, although birds have a high metabolism and are quite sensitive to mishandling and human-generated stress, from my observation storms don't seem to bother

them at all.

To Stephen Shaw - Yes, the Vedek Bareil character did not appeal to me either, so I don't think only male viewers were unimpressed. No warmth to the character. As for trying to resurrect the character, I think this would undermine the whole meaning of the Life Support episode: it was meant to be the ultimate sacrifice. We've had too many characters in Trek dying and then coming back.

Re the Paramount controversy; some years ago BBC Enterprises were threatening to get tough with the Doctor Who Appreciation Society over publication of photos. If this had been implemented, it would have meant fan editors having to get permission from, and pay a fee to, every person in a photo. As Dr Who publications were factual and used a lot of photos, this would have been a big blow. In the event, only one or two people who were making a business of selling photos were affected, and had to licence themselves to BBC Enterprises and pay a percentage of their profit to them, the BBC handling the Equity and permissions angles. So maybe Paramount are really aiming at people doing activities that are a large scale or otherwise resemble a business and clubs need to explain the charitable basis of amateur-run cons and clubs?

• S A M Bedford, 3 Holmefield, Sale, Cheshire M33 3AN

Hi, folk, ta for Judith Taylor's guided tour of SOL III. I only met few of you (Taruka is crazy!), but if you were at SOL III I was the loony in a science Next Gen uniform, walking with rambler (big blue frame on wheels). The tribble was steering!

To Taruka - Why do you send poor tribbles out? What did they do to you, apart from take over the house? Thanks for mine, though. Tracie Tribble isn't lonely any more! Jay should be honoured to have one of these lovely creatures.

To Catherine Hill - I love X-files too. Drop me a line if you want a chat. I have loads of stories on X-files.

To David Raper - I agree B5's brill. I know this is a Trek club, but why do people get so heated up about everything in a club whose name implies tolerance?

I don't like the idea of a wrinklies con, as it would exclude people like me. I have been a Trek fan for 20 years, as Mum was Trek mad. I was 4 when she took me to the first movie!

To Liz Caldwell and others - What is wrong with Trills? I agree with Robbie Taylor - a debate, maybe? I love the species, but why condemn a whole species on the grounds that one Trill (Ambassador Odan) was not very nice? We are no better than Q, who condemned the human race in Farpoint, if we do!

Finally, to Sarah Rooke - I'm a closet alien too. I walked around SOL III in a Trek uniform with a Psi Core badge on, 'cos I'm a Betazoid (Psi 5-6, I think). But I love Trills and Bajorans too. Humans are OK - sometimes!

To anyone who saw me at SOL III - Yes, I am as mad as Data. My bright blue rambler is called Rosie, for the same reason Data called a stripey ginger cat Spot. Insanity!

• Leslie Moyes - 2 Carleton Cres, Woodside, Glenrothes, Fife KY7 5AN, tel 01592 757000

I just got back from Conundrum and I think the committee did an excellent job. It was also great to meet other members again.

On the future of Trek - from what I have heard, the 4th season of DS9 smacks of rip-offs from ST VI + TNG's classic conspiracy. Now if you call that original Berman then Spock's Brain is the best ST ever! Hopefully we can get a debates page about Trek's future in another issue and if no-one else can see those blatant rip-offs then they must be blind or still stranded on Ceti Alpha 6 :-)

Anyway, to all I met at Conundrum (Julie, Marcia, Zo-Annis and everyone else hi. It was a pleasure meeting you all. I hope to see you again some time. anyway, I am off to get myself a life :-)

Special notice to the girl I met at Conundrum who was wearing the white Blake's 7 sweatshirt - please get in touch. I would love to hear from you.

• David Gallagher - Fulham

Since the reports of James T Kirk's 'alleged' death, I notice that we have already had a few books set within the time between ST VI and ST Generations... all purporting to be Kirk's final 'big' adventure. I wonder what we can look forward to next, then - Captain Kirk's adventures in the Nexus? A cross between Highway to Heaven and Quantum Leap, with our hero popping in and out of the Nexus at key moments in history - and putting right things that once went wrong... etc, etc, etc!

To Jean Perrin - Yes, it was meant as a joke - and so, unfortunately, nobody replied with any tenners - which was a shame, really, as any money received would have gone to sick animals... (mind you, I never knew they were sick until I bet on them!)

Finally, in the short time I have been reading the newsletter, I have noticed many of the same names keep cropping up in the postbag, articles and reviews. I thought it might be a good idea to introduce a new regular article in which we could get to know the more regular contributors a little better - a sort of 'fan fact file' - starting, of course, with the committee... What say you?

• Gill Marks - Oxford

Hi to everyone at IDIC! I hope you all had a great summer. At times the heat made me think I had suddenly been transported to Vulcan!

To Sarah Rooke - Re the 'spirit/soul'. I definitely believe that we are all reincarnated. I always think about the words said by a child who was dying, and that was that our bodies are "merely a reflection of our souls". It seems logical that we must move on and experience many lives in order to learn and better ourselves.

To Marcia Stanislawski - Re humour - I agree with you in that TNG contains plenty one - episode which I found really funny was

The Royale, when Worf answered a telephone for the first time, and Data was at the gaming table commenting, "the baby needs new shoes". Another episode which relied on visual humour was Qpid - those costumes, and again a wonderful line from Worf - "I am not a merry man!"... Well, it made me laugh. Perhaps others of you would like to write in about your favourite funny moments.

• Theresa Murison - 7 The Close, Cowley Moor, Tiverton, Devon EX16 6HR

Hello to y'all. I'm new to these pages so be gentle with me! Actually, I joined up with IDIC months ago but I've spent the time reading your letters and getting to know everybody. I got 'into' ST at the beginning of season 4 - I took a fancy to Brent Spiner and after a few episodes I was 'hooked'! (On ST - not Brent, not that I'd mind it though, ahem!). Oh, by the way - I'm deafened.

After 6 months of sheer patience I have finally seen Generations on video. I thought it was really good, though I'll admit it was a shock seeing Data with all those emotions. It was like seeing a different character. Still, the film was excellent - action, brill, special FX, superb. I don't necessarily agree when people say it's just like watching another episode - technically it is another episode, but as soon as it starts you feel like you're watching a movie.

To Jean Perrin - OK, so why didn't C4 snap up ST? Good question, as it seems C4 is the main channel for American shows. But here's a point; C4 interrupts their shows with pointless adverts (by the time they finish, you've forgotten what you were watching!!) Beeb 2 doesn't. Sooo, we get 45 minutes of ad-free ST on Beeb 2 compared to the "Oh, God - not again!" adverts on C4. Still wanna see ST on C4?

To the Ed - Jean Perrin is right! :-), :-), eg indicating humour doesn't work!<- This is more like it!

To Nigel Nixon - That Beth Toussaint girlie played Bobby's 'associate' in Dallas. Remember?

Does anyone have any spare photos of the NC cast taken at conventions, specially of Brent? I had to go into hospital last Feb and missed the con and film premiere, sniff! Will pay for them. Also has anyone got any video recordings of any interviews Brent has done? Will return them.

Heelllloooooo to my pen-pally, fellow deaf ST nut Sara Hall of Warley. How are you? Thanks for those computer games - mighty courteous of you!

To Janet Quarton - Thanks for giving Sara my address. It was lovely hearing from a deaf ST fan. Yes, they really do exist!

Also can anyone tell me - what is this TNG Bohemian Rhapsody? Is it a remake of that Queen song sung by TNG cast(!) (C'mon, girls, imagine Brent Spiner in a skin-tight catsuit! Meowwww!!!! Purr!!!

• Lyn Johnstone - Bristol

John de Lancia was at the Nexus convention and what a great guest he was! He said his favourite Q episode was tapestry because it dealt with a point that was quite important to him, in that young people should be prepared to take risks with their lives - not in the sense of driving a speeding car down the highway, but in the decisions they make about their future. His favourite line from any Q episode - "Welcome to the after-life, Jean-Luc!... You're dead!" (from Tapestry).

Isn't Voyager great? I don't think it warrants the criticism it's been getting from a couple of the commercial sci-fi publications, and anyway I'd say they've been proved wrong by just looking at the video charts. Every tape released so far has gone straight to No. 1 and has hung around the charts for quite a while. That shows a lot of people like it, so there!! The best thing about Voyager is the cast. They all interact together so well and the humour is great. In fact, they could do an episode about whose turn it was to do the washing up and I'd probably enjoy it! :-) I like *all* the characters, especially the Doctor (possibly the funniest character from any Trek), Chakotay (he can teach me how to contact my animal guide any old time!!) and

B'Elanna (anyone with perpetual PMT gets my sympathy!)

• Tracy Saunders - 27 Glenwood Ave, Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex SS0 9DJ

To everyone who has been laughed at because they like Star Trek - may I suggest that the next time it happens, ask them what they are interested in, and what hobbies they have. You will be surprised at the answers!

To Nigel Nixon - Thanks for the correction about Darwin, I do apologise about my mistake. Just in case anyone is interested, I've read a book where it is pointed out that the chimpanzees are our direct ancestors but spiritually they come sixth. Humans are first, dogs second and the cat third. I just thought that the fans of the Vulcans and Klingons would be interested.

To Susanne Charlesworth - In case you haven't received a letter from me yet, I am writing! I have quite a few letters to write (to everyone I know). By the way, I have written an article about Kirk and the rest of the original crew; they just haven't been published yet. (Oh, yikes, I hear you cry.)

To Taruka - I was interested to read about Katra. As you already know my belief is that our aim in existence is to learn and improve spiritually.

Finally, if there are any aboriginal Indians out there who would like to write to me, please do so at the above address.

• Eagle Mirror - Caught in a State of Flux (Taruka)

To the Wicked Witch of the South, the syrinx is a Greek instrument, yet why is it that the sikus/zamponas of the Andes (yes they are panpipes too) are always described as representing the sadness of the people? Mind you, that goes for most Andean instruments!!

Re Chakotay and the animal spirit guide. Er...is it me or is it just that Paramount don't want to offend the Nations, because both the form of Chakotay's teaching Janeway (hallucinogenic substance plus concentration on a point) and the appearance of a lizard

are both parts of the Yaqu yerba del diablo divining ritual (Carlos Castaneda, the Teachings of Don Juan; Jeanette Harknoran, Of Silver-Winged Falcons).

Mike Sadler and Neil Safi...I've lost your address and I've got something really silly for you! Help! Get in touch at once! Err..bananas don't have pips. (OK Sheila I'm not starting it all over again just stating a fact).

Glyn "Tasha Yar" Holland...OK OK you've got a tribble, actually two, one for the by-line and one for the warning to Julie Evans. Please forward your address so I can send them to you. If you can't find mine in a previous IDIC, it's "Tierra Venida", 15A Clevedon Road, Ingol, Preston Lancs PR2 3YL.

Would Julie Evans (awarded tribbles for the Lore/Spot cartoon, the alternative Descent and because she asked me for one), Mike Sadler (again) Neil Safi, Stephen Shaw and Henry Gallagher please write to me to claim their tribbles. Paul Taylor has already been awarded his!

Jay Stephenson...my five cats (Geordi, Ro, Jadzia Minbari, Ceilaer and Fluff) would certainly not fit into your theory. Ro brought a chick sparrow in some time ago, dead, unfortunately, but would she let Geordi near it? She guarded her trophy extremely jealously!

To Marie J Park 're Chakotay's tattoo. Here we go again, dropping down into Mexico. The Aztecs considered a tattoo a mark of honour. Now if you study the symbols of the Aztec calendar, flip one or two over and delete a line here and there you can come up with Chakotay's tattoo. It's a reversed eagle (Nahuatl, quauhtli-tezcatl). Is it coincidence, I wonder that the "medicine wheel" was of distinctly Maya design, two of the figures probably representing Itzamna, the sun-god.

Thank you for the wordsearch but as I've not read very many of the novels (due to lack of finances) I found it extremely difficult!

• Judith Taylor: Take Me With You, I Can See, I Can See Perfectly, Wait No I Can't I Haven't Got My Contacts In.

"Pig tubes, sausage in a bun, hand knitted TNG jumpers, took four weeks to make and nobody wants them".

Hi everyone, and hi to every one who went to Lightspeed. You know I thought I would never see one, but yes, I've been to a convention where nothing Mega disastrous happened, The roof didn't fall in, The water pipes didn't burst and the DJ actually played what we wanted to hear. Does anyone out there want hand made knitted TNG jumpers, extremely warm in the winter during those cold outdoor conventions or just for running about in, plus if you remove all rank and insignia you can infiltrate large crowds with no bother, since they look just like jumpers. If you want one drop us a line, 70 Leadale Road, Leyland, Lancs PR5 1QR. And yes, OSTFUK does look like a naughty word.

To Martin Helsdon - a promiscuous Q? I don't think so, look at his disgust over the origin of Amanda.

To Sarah Rooke, I agree about Chakotay, I have a pet rock myself which helps me to meditate.

To Maureen Norton, I too have had this wonder. I think that Odo has figured out how to create a working combadge, else he'd keep losing it when he squidges through cracks and things.

Neil J Barrett, where are you?

To answer Penny Robinson's question, Data didn't have golden eyes all the way through 'Parallels' because Worf jumped to a time line where Data was given blue eyes instead of gold.

How about this, everyone, Voyager is stuck 70 years from Federation space and Tuvok is a Vulcan and will hit Pon Farr in three years. Is this going to lead to interesting stories or what?

To Janet Ellicot, perhaps Wesley is the 24th century version of a Tomorrow Person.

;-) (Don't you just love these smiley things of those Americans?)

• Paul Taylor, Hiding under a washing machine on spin cycle

HELLO. SORRY ABOUT THE NOISE BUT I'M TRYING OUT SOMEONE'S ADVICE.

TO MICHAEL SADLER RE SPIN CYCLES, IT'S A BIT LOUD. Ah it's stopped now. How could that stop nuclear fallout? Anyway, have you got a time machine because for you to be on board the Death Star is impossible at the moment as it was destroyed by the rebels.

To Edward Woo re Bajoran earrings, when it is worn on one ear you want to get in touch with your Pa and the other to get in touch with your Ma.

To Vicky Roberts re WESLEY, if he is the next step in evolution I'd hate to see what comes next!!!

• Alan Stephen - Bridge of Don, Aberdeen

Another letter to IDIC, or as I like to call it, I Annoy Dave Styles With Irritating Correspondence.

To Sheila - Re 45-year-old malt whisky. You buy it, I'll share it with you.

So Paramount are doing radical changes to DS9 to improve it for the fourth season. Wasn't this tried for the third season? Much as I welcome the return of Michael Dorn, the fourth season sounds a lot like Babylon 5. Re Paramount's decision on preventing the showing of Star Trek videos at cons, the SF Worldcon was stopped from showing Star Trek and Warner Bros stopped the committee from showing Babylon 5.

If you're not one of those thin-skinned Star Trek fans and if you have access to cable or satellite, you may enjoy a show on Bravo, The Critic, 9.00 pm Thursdays. It's an animated programme about a film reviewer, which often has digs at Star Trek, like Hee-Haw the Next Generation with the crew of ST:TNG square dancing or Star Trek Generation X starring Keanu Reeves and

Christian Slater, with Jim Kirk singing in his own unmistakeable style Raindrops Keep Falling on my Head accompanied by Jean-Luc Picard on the tambourine. Give it a try - it's very funny.

Just a thought. If Star Trek fans are Trekkies, are Babylon 5 fans Babies?

• David J Raper - Hull

Speaking as someone who enjoyed both Classic and TNG (now sadly in the past tense) as well as DS9, I can only say that Voyager seems to be carrying on in pretty much the Star Trek tradition. Having now seen 8 episodes, I have come to the conclusion that it is developing nicely, with a thread of continuity that would have certainly benefited its predecessors. Put simply, I like it and so do most of those I have talked to - so far - though the Lost in Space premise is a bit of a cliché, it is a good one and has a lot of possibilities. My only real worry is that they end the series but do not end the voyage, which I hope they avoid as it would be a shame to leave them all 'hanging' out there.

On the subject of DS9, any news about Worf and the Klingon Empire? If he is to make an appearance, will it be as 'guest starring...' or will it be on a more permanent basis? Not that I would not mind seeing Worf's familiar scowl in Operations, or possibly commanding the Defiant - a Klingon and A Federation battlecruiser? The perfect combination. Then again, what about Thomas Riker? Kira did promise to rescue him from the Cardassians' clutches..., assuming he did not manage to get himself free, that is, and I always thought that Tom had a lot of potential that was wasted in The Defiant - aside from giving Jonathan Frakes a chance to restyle his beard.

To Rory Smith - The 1701-A was *not* formerly the USS Ti Ho, but was a refitted Constitution class starship only a few years younger than the 1701; according to the NG Tech Manual, it was formerly the Yorktown and it was certainly *never* fitted out for a transwarp drive.

To Jean Perrin - C4 and ITV do not show

Trek because the BBC and Sky beat them to it, which is why we see them without adverts; but why the BBC put it in such an obscure slot is anyone's guess. Personally, I think they are embarrassed by it all, or there's a Dominion Founder seeking to undermine Starfleet... It would explain a few things.

To Neil J Barrett - I think that Odan's transporter phobia was like that of Reg Barclay or Kate Pulaski, an irrational fear but a very real one - perhaps rooted in a past life, when Federation transporters were new, he'd heard the story of a certain Starship Captain who was split into two by a transporter accident?

SPOILER ALERT To Chris Tearne - Where is Nog? Watch Heart of Stone, where you find out just what Nog wants to do with his life, though with his 'uncle's tenacity' I expect him to make more of a go of it than Wesley Crusher, not least because it is something *he* wants to do, and not what everyone wants for him.

To Raymond Spencer - With regard to Janeway's hair, I'd say it's a pretty practical way of keeping it out of the way when on duty.

• Janet Quarton - Lochgilphead, Argyll

After reading comments on The Outcast I feel that a lot of people have the wrong angle on this episode.

The way I read the episode, we are given a race of people where having no gender is the accepted norm. Anyone showing any signs of gender, either male or female, are abnormal and must be forced to conform. I think this was meant to mirror the way a lot of our society treats non-heterosexuals. Riker's affair with Soren was just a means of betraying Soren's female preferences.

Ray Dowsett and I have had many a disagreement about how closely Starfleet mirrors the Royal Navy - I have always felt it resembles more the Merchant Navy. Now, Ray, I don't want to upset you or any other members who are/were in the Navy, but after watching HMS Brilliant I am even more convinced that life on the Enterprise is

'nothing' like that. I just can't see Kirk and his officers or Picard and *his* officers rolling around the messroom floor playing party games. I shuddered. Can you imagine the Captain of the QE2 behaving with his men in such a manner? The men at work tell me this is public-schoolboy type behaviour so I suspect it doesn't go on in the US navy.

• Mr R. J. Robinson - Bishop's Stortford

I must defend my namesake Tim Russ who plays Tuvok in Voyager. Earth has many races and colours so why shouldn't Vulcan. I would advise Neil Barrett to read the book, The Lost Years. He may find his answer there.

The best book I have read about Vulcans so far is 'Sarek', I wish there were more like it.

Neila is right about one thing, it is hard to imitate a Vulcan, to me that is what I admire most about them. If you do not set goals for yourself in life you will not achieve much worth while.

Questions

Karen Russell - Are there any blooper tapes for TNG series 2-7?

[Janet - Not as far as we know. The blooper tapes were compiled for the Christmas parties. A 2nd season blooper reel was made but some scenes were put together in an embarrassing way and some of the cast were upset by them. Because of this no more blooper reels were made.]

Has anyone written to the William Shatner Connection recently and received a reply?

A number of members have asked where they can get copies of the award winning music video, The Bohemian Rhapsody.

[Janet - this video was compiled for a competition at Contagion last year. Copies can't be sold because of possible copyright problems with Paramount and Queen.]

Mr R. J. Robinson - I would like to ask if anybody knows what a Sehlat (Vulcan Pet) looks like or has a picture of one. *[Janet - a*

sehlat looks like a large bear with two long fangs. See the Animated episode, Yesteryear.

Does anyone have any information on Vulcan geography?

Where can I obtain a pair of false Vulcan ears?

Suggestions

Darren Evans - I would like to suggest the

idea of club badges. These would be available to members at 50p or £1. To keep costs down (or overheads) you could have a 100 in stock and then buy more as required.

[Janet - Member Robert Gray made us 200 laminated badges that we were able to sell at 50p inclusive of p&p. We have just run out of these and Robert doesn't have time to make more. The 200 badges took about 3 years to sell so there really wasn't that much demand for them.]



CONUNDRUM: GUEST TALKS AND TRIBUTES

reported by Jean Sloan

There was something about Conundrum - something really special. The programming was a feat of legerdemain; the guests got really involved; the committee and its team worked indefatigably, and joined in with gusto when duties permitted, staying unfailingly cheerful in the face of sleep deprivation. Then there was Scott MacMillan...

Hi-di-Hi- meets Match of the Day

Scott MacMillan, redcoat, compere par excellence, really set the tone of participation for the weekend by encouraging the audience to join in cheering, etc, during the opening Ceremony, then at every opportunity thereafter. Then there was The Wave, the Nexus Wave and the Praxis Wave, Invented at Conundrum, first seen at Conundrum...

So tributes to the folks who organised a great con; and to the attendees who took Scott's lead and joined in everything; and to the Klingons who staged a magnificent piece of theatre; and to the guests who kept us entertained.

"You Folks Sure Know How to Throw a Party"

Majel Barrett-Roddenberry joined in with gusto and seemed to have a good time. Personally, I was thrilled to meet her because to me she is a link with the origins of Trek as well as a fine actress and a real character. She

has had 31 years of involvement with Trek - in at the beginning and still involved today. She met Gene Roddenberry in 1964. They became good friends and eventually married on 6th August 1969.

A Philosophical Beginning

Majel pointed out that ST has become our 20th mythology, which is "not bad for a show that started out as 79 episodes selling soap and toothpaste". Gene's vision for the show was humanistic. He saw ST as a vehicle for dealing with current issues; his belief was that civilisation will reach maturity when Man learns to value and appreciate diversity. The people of *his* universe in the future were nearer that state of maturity than we are today; that was his vision for OT and NG. Majel characterises Gene as an optimist, someone with great fighting spirit - "as dogged and indefatigable as a guy selling insurance".

ST has other things to say. It presents the importance of exploration, of pushing back the frontiers of knowledge. Majel talked at some length about the ideas generated by ST - the hypospray replacing the hypodermic needle; diagnostic beds; cellular phones. Science fiction engages the imagination of the viewer and stimulates problem solving. Majel heralded the importance of pushing the limits of technology to solve world problems; the technology exists to create an atmosphere on Mars; it would cost 200 - 300 billion, then

39 billion per year; that would be 3 trillion for the first 100 years - after that the project would be self-sustaining. This could be achieved in the next 150 - 160 years if present-day exploration of space is given a high profile...

Life With Trek

Majel Barrett-R has been in every incarnation of Trek - but it wasn't a smooth start. After Gene screened his pilot to 'the suits' he was given an ultimatum: 1) Get rid of the woman (Number One); 2) Get rid of the guy with the ears - he'll upset the women viewers (!!!*!); 3) Review the male/female balance on the show.

Gene had to fight for his concept, "so he married the woman and kept the man with the ears because Leonard wouldn't have it the other way round". Majel was happy to remain with the show as Chapel, but she declares herself not particularly fond of the character - "a pussycat, weak - this woman is a loser".

The "mother from hell" is a different matter. Someone asked Majel how much of her own personality was in Lwaxana. Her reply was that Gene's approach to her about the part went like this - "I've got a character for you and you don't have to act..."

She enjoys playing the role, there are lovely costumes to wear, she has great fun with Lwaxana's hair, which is always changing. What is more, the character has been well developed. Majel's favourite episode is Half a Life, but she had great fun making Cost of Living. A short time ago she thought she was going to lose the character. A synopsis of the 'plot' of the next film was on Internet - Lwaxana saves the ship and dies in her daughter's arms. Majel rang up Rick B and said, "I don't want to die..." but was reassured that the plot for the next film did not exist.

Majel has pitched some stories about Lwaxana. She would like to see the issue of late pregnancy treated - she has a great idea for an opening... L arrives on DS9 on a transport, heavily pregnant, and says,

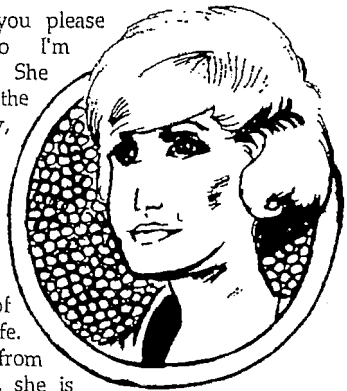
"Would you please tell Odo I'm here..." She pitched the full story, but it has not been made...

Trek is still part of Majel's life. Apart from

Lwaxana, she is still employed as the computer voice, for which she gets paid a full day for a few minutes' work. She is involved in marketing, and regularly attends cons. "The best part is the people I have met, and the fans..." Her favourite TNG character is Troi. As an Empath, the character she would most like to be with is Worf. Her most memorable screen kiss is with the Ferengi - "all those teeth..." She approved of the Betazoid nude wedding - "It saves time". She has been asked to write a day by day autobiography - she is doing a cookery book instead. She requests that we all send her recipes... Write to Majel at Lincoln Enterprises, POB 691370, West Hollywood, CA 90069, USA.

Lurching into the next section of the report

Before he played Lurch in the film versions of the Addams Family, Carel Struyken was repeatedly mistaken for the Lurch of the TV series; but he was in High School when that was made. He was born in Holland, but when he was 4 he moved to the Caribbean, where he lived until he was 15. Returning to Holland, he finished school then went to film school. He wanted to direct. To further his career, he moved to the US and worked on a sci-fi film independently. He was asked to do various projects, then Sergeant Pepper came along, then Ewoks, then the Witches of Eastwick. When he was finally asked to play Lurch he was glad, because it meant he could answer "yes" to the question "Aren't you Lurch?" which he had been asked so often.



Carel is also known for his role as the giant in *Twin Peaks*. He commented on working with David Lynch as director - a whimsical man and an odd experience. The series was very low budget. When Carel arrived for his first episode (of the 2nd season) the crew seemed to be sleepwalking - a result of working very long hours. David Lynch is very idiosyncratic. In giving instructions he would say things like "make that sound a little more orange" (to the composer) or "talk very slow as if you're under water". In the first episode of season 2 a waiter brings a glass of milk. The man was about 85 and everyone was cringing at the length of time he took to cross the set; but David wanted him much slower. "Twin Peaks was a totally unique phenomenon - you could see it would not last..." In the end the money ran out and the show had to be wound up very quickly. The last episode was filmed without a script - more or less making it up as they went along.

Talking about unique phenomena, when Carel went to the US, the OS was just running and Carel became a fan. He enjoys playing Mr Homm and working with Majel is "wonderful; what else can I say?" He would like to speak and doesn't know why the character does not; obviously he communicates telepathically with Lwaxana and "you mere mortals cannot hear us". The character of Mr Homm has to be strong because "in service with Lwaxana you have to do more incredible things." At one time Carel thought of the character as a sort of primitive Data. His favourite episode is the one where he has all the pins in his mouth - "now what's that called?"

Over the seasons of working on TNG, he saw the development of the on-set camaraderie (that *all* guests comment on). The set became rowdier and rowdier. In the last year, "it was like a class excursion", and the directors had control problems. Carel missed out on appearing in some episodes because of other projects - the studio "gets miffed" if you are doing something else. A classic example of studio inflexibility was when he was called for DS9 and was filming on the sound stage opposite; the studio wouldn't work the two projects together to

let him film his DS9 sequence.

Carel believes that ST will still be watched in 20 years - it is timeless because it deals with timeless issues. He would love to play a Klingon. He likes International cons best - "British fans have different reasons for liking ST - they like the sci-fi elements whereas American fans like the fantasy elements." On the subject of *Voyager*, Carel feels that we will not see "the philosophical way of TNG" on that show.

Carel enjoyed working on B5 although he "felt a bit like a traitor, but most ST people watch B5 as well." He compared the shows: "B5 is very different from ST in budgetary terms. SFX and make-up are good; the dialogue is a bit hokey. In ST everyone behaves like a ST character. In B5 the characters are left to their own devices re how people are supposed to be in that day and age." Carel got to know a number of NASA engineers - they watch B5 and X-Files, both of which are rendered on Amigas. Carel himself has a bank of Amigas. He is working on a virtual reality system for physical therapy where the patient is in a Virtual Reality environment. It is being worked on by space engineers which is how Carel was invited to Canaveral and allowed to sit in a space capsule "incredibly cramped, but *not* once you are weightless." The VR system is almost ready to be trialled in hospitals.

Carel is interested in nano-technology. "When this takes off, the world will change; matter will become programmable; you will be able to program a house and it will build itself..." And another thought. "Will actors be digitalised? We've seen it happen with musicians..."

A recent project of Carel's was *Oblivion*, filmed in Roumania, where he worked with George Takei. Some of you might recall George's comments on the privations of that experience - he hated it. Carel thought it was "a real adventure". The cast and crew were almost starving. The only time they got a decent meal was when a visiting soccer team left them their spare food. Half way through the shoot it rained, and the streets turned to mud.

Carel's appearance dictates the roles he is offered, like menacing mafioso parts, but he admits that he is not very menacing. He can do a crazed butler, but he is not good at standing still and intimidating people. "I hope there's not much more butler in my future." His size is the result of a condition where he put out too much growth hormone, though his grandfather is 6'11", "so genetically I am about 6'11." He takes a size 18 shoe. Nike goes up to size 21 to accommodate basketball players, but other types of shoe are more of a problem. For a while he made his own shoes, hiking and ski boots.

Carel never set out to act - it was an accident. He likes working with Jack Nicholson, who is just like the rumours say - very concentrated at work then at night he parties. After making the Witches of Eastwick, Carel wanted his wardrobe from the film. Wardrobe said he would have to buy it. Jack N was furious; he said *he* would buy it then give it to Carel, but *everyone would know*. The studio handed everything over. The lizard tyrant in Ewoks was a great part; Carel got to rant and rave about wanting power, behind a mask - "you can get away with more behind a mask". He would love to be involved in another Star Wars film - the project has been rumoured for so long; "The old ones are just as powerful now as when they came out." He'd love a chance to be in a TNG film - he has done a few auditions and hopes one will stick. Perhaps they'll let him play that Klingon!

Carel Struyken was a good guest. He is a many-faceted man, an interesting raconteur. Like Majel, he joined in the con with gusto. He had his wife and mother with him - they were all taking the opportunity to tour Scotland. I wonder what they thought of us?

Richard's Riches

Richard Arnold had two slots during the weekend, which he filled with slides and up-to-date information. Because of the timing of this N/L in relation to the con, some of the news won't be new by the time you read this - but I hope there will be a few different

slants.

- Tuesday 11th July at 7 am saw the commencement of filming the DS9 4th season premiere - a 2-hour film. The alliance between the Fed and the Klingon Empire is collapsing; the film introduced Michael Dorn as a regular on DS9, is called The Way of the Warrior and will air the week of October 1st.

Nobody told Marina. She was furious. She likes to know and tell other people. "Telegram, telephone, tell Marina" - RA reporting what people say about her.

- The Search: if Odo is sexless, why is there a female shapeshifter?

- House of Quark : How do they get from DS9 to the Klingon homeworld and back in a couple of days?

- Cliff Bole, director, has only two shirts - an Hawaiian one and a denim one.

- Terry Farrell married her attorney.

- Meridian: "DS9 meets Brigadoon".

- Jonathan Frakes and his wife have changed the baby's name from Benjamin Ivor Frakes (because of the initials BIF) to Jamieson Ivor Frakes (----?)

- Bareil was killed off because there was no chemistry between Nana and Philip.

- Colm Meaney has not done a lot in ST because he has other commitments.

- The Voyager craft was inspired by Rick Sternback playing with a plastic spoon.

- Ratings - An OS episode ran 6.8; finale 3rd season DS9 6.0; New Voy episodes run 7/8; repeat TNG run 9.5.

- Voyager is closer to Trek than DS9, which is grittier by admission. Have been some very strong episodes in DS9 - these have been the human stories. 4th season focusing on a shaky treaty seems to be moving the human story to a war story. Richard makes the point that ST is not about war stories, it is about

where we could and should go. If it starts to get too dark, bringing in Michael Dorn as Worf won't necessarily bring the audience. If they can focus on the positive rather than the negative then the show has a chance, ie focus on strong human stories with strong writers. Richard hopes the studio will learn from what is happening in the ratings. (Jean's comment - in the breaking up of peace in DW9, are we looking at competition between DS9 and B5?)

• Michael will appear in movies II & III - it is in his contract.

• Generations II will be a Borg story - Braga and Moore.

• Jonathan F called Generations "Two Captains in search of a good hairpiece".

• Voyager only has a small crew; if the trend for casualties as in Caretaker continues, are they going to run out of crew? "They can't play redshirt the way OS did." They are saying that a lead character will be killed off in a couple of seasons.

• Generations in the US was the second lowest grossing of all the ST features. In making the film, the studio went to WS first, knowing his style of negotiation. De and Nimoy passed on principle. Jimmy signed quickly. They went to Walter next because he had been pitching scripts, and answered his concerns. George and Nichelle were not contacted. Patrick was disappointed because it wasn't both casts. Whoopi felt cheated because she wanted to work with Nimoy.

Some of the best work of the Originals was cut.

Important NB - the first release of the film on sell-through will *not* contain the extra footage. A second release of all seven films *will* contain it; my understanding it that this will be a boxed set.

• Data is Pinocchio; once you make him a real boy, where do you go next? Richard is looking forward to the next film to see where the character is going.


• Malcolm McDowell has been receiving death threats. He is Siddiq El Fadil's uncle.

• The stellar cartography set was 15 ft above the stage floor. Brent is nervous of heights. Every time Patrick moved, the floor flexed - so Patrick flexed it deliberately. PS loves roller coasters and if there is one near any venue he will visit it. He 'collects' them.

• There will be 30th anniversary celebrations, but the only plans so far have been to do with merchandise - it is too soon to think about special shows.

An apology -

For the titles.. To anyone who groaned. It's Janet's fault, blame her. She has a thing about prosaic headings.

All right now, everyone, let's have it; a praxis wave; one... two... three... now *come on*; you can do better than that... and remember, folks, you did it first at *Conundrum!* 

CONUNDRUM: REPORTS

by Julie Bruin

The brave souls who undertook the awesome task of running the fifth annual Scottish convention are worthy of everyone's praise.

This was my first Scottish convention, but I had heard a great deal about Contagion, and was expecting a great weekend. The committee did a wonderful job, and even my

high expectations were exceeded.

The opening ceremony, where the Nexus wave (a variation on the Mexican wave) was born, really got people into the spirit of things, so the guests (Carel Struyken, Majel Barrett and of course Richard Arnold) were given a rapturous welcome.

Each guest spoke on both Saturday and Sunday. Richard's slide shows (on

Generations and the History of Star Trek) were, as ever, interesting and informative. Carel came over as an incredibly intelligent and fascinating man (he's worked on a virtual reality programme to assist in physiotherapy and has even made his own shoes for his size 18 feet!) Majel started each talk with a prepared piece and then answered questions. She explained her idea for a Lwaxana plot. Lwaxana, looking very heavily pregnant, arrives at Deep Space 9 and her first words are, "Tell Odo I want to see him". Wouldn't that make a great episode? She also explained that Michael Dorn has joined the DS9 cast.

Mention must be made of the Sub Rosa Ceilidh, disco and Klingon opera. Everyone enjoyed the ceilidh, especially Majel, who finally discovered that Scotsmen really don't wear anything under their kilts. The disco was preceded by the eagerly awaited Klingon opera. The opera *sounded* great. I just wish I could have seen it, but someone of my diminutive stature didn't have a chance to see anything!

The charity auction contained a full range of autographs. Sadly, prices were low, people just didn't seem to have the money, so less than was hoped for went to charity. A great deal of credit is due to Stephen Rothwell, who put so much work into putting the auction together, particularly the lot that he didn't know about - the photo of him in full Klingon regalia.

The dealers' room was constantly busy, in particular Lincoln Enterprises. Majel spent most of every day sitting at the table, signing and chatting. This provided me with one of my most memorable moments. Majel looked at my Major Kira uniform and remarked, "You look just like her". It must have looked good to get Majel's seal of approval!

The highlight of the weekend? The look of joyful wonderment on Majel's face as she saw Gene's dream for a better future coming alive before her eyes.

A convention where the guests enjoy themselves as much as the attendees can only be considered a huge success - which Conundrum undoubtedly was.

by Edward Woo

Friday - Arrived about noon and recognised some familiar faces. Maggie and I got registered and got our hotel rooms quickly. Did a quick recon of the hotel before going out for cash, burgers and shopping. Upon returning we rested, read the con book and ticked the episodes we were going to watch.

By late afternoon more regulars arrived - Jean, Baggy, Jane, Simon, IDIC, TQ's lot, Gary's crowd (of 42) who went to see Batman and Frankie. Fran arrived last night. The committee was actually quite smart, as they had a dinner evening. Four of us went for pizza, bringing back some for Simon. The bar was busy and we found Donna and Adrian. Later we were collared by the 2 Daves collecting for charity. The videos had already begun on the 8th floor. We watched 4 of them to various theme tunes - a competition that was running over the weekend. Midnight - bar again, finding Leslie, Peter and Harminder. Bedtime came at 1 am.

Saturday - Woke, washed and ate all in an hour. The dealers' room opened, but it was quiet. Bought a photo of Carel, but nothing urgent unless you are a trading card fan - Voyager on Richard's table. Dropped off some white horta and IDIC bits. Some very nice artwork, ie Runabout, Spock (Amok Time) montages of the ST crew and knitted pictures of Picard and crew. Taruka was on the Klingon staff.

12 noon, the opening ceremony began with brief intros and our 3 guests.

Majel was the first to talk, with gossip about Lwaxana, other stories, Gene's vision, NASA, books and comics. It was an entertaining 1.5 hours. Carel was next. He had a Q&A session about Twin Peaks, Lurch, Mr Homm and future acting jobs, and wants to make his own movie. Richard followed with the latest Trek news, a slide show of ST and a Q&A session. Worf is back in DS9. Generations 2 begins next year. Voyager continues.

At 1800 we had a charity auction, mostly

of trading cards and B & W photos. Baggy bought a script and someone wanted Wil Wheaton's photo.; A Kent man bought the 5' X 6' Generations display stand. Prices were low, however; people didn't have the money.

After dinner we missed the tech talk and panel discussion, but we saw the fancy dress. Costumes from Masks, Data in a dress, Worf, Scotty, Troi and Crusher and a Klingon. Scotty won (he had a bottle). For the next 3 hours we had the traditional ceilidh despite a small dance floor, with plenty of Scottish colour. Majel came and joined us as well. Came 1 am it had all finished, but I had another 2 hours stewarding, meeting Shetland John. Bed was at 3 am after the videos.

Sunday - Sunlight, water, food came and went. After a couple of videos and visits to the dealers' room, we went to Richard's charity auction. Again, mostly photos and trading cards. Simon got Bill's signed photo (£47), Dr McCoy (£55) and film clips from City on the Edge of Forever (£70). Richard finished early, which gave him a break for his Q & A session, which was next. A full audience heard more Trek news. There are rating problems for DS9. 30th anniversary preparations are already begun and the video of Generations will soon be out, but not with extra scenes - have to wait for the box set.

Popped out, and nearly got caught on a video interview. Carel was next, all 7'4" with size 18 shoes. He described his NG work, being typecast and his life style in LA compared to Holland. He finished early, to sign more autographs.

After 2 more videos, Majel's second guest spot filled the hall. Again she did a reading, a Q&A about the space program; kilts and bums were topics! Got some better photos here as we were a lot closer than on Saturday. Frankie got to touch Majel's hand!

Dinner of sandwiches and tea came before we headed for the 8th floor stewards' party. The holodeck fantasy in the main hall soon followed. First was the Klingon Opera - good if you understand Klingon, but still very impressive costumes, speeches and

masks.

The disco began with 70s dances, YMCA and Star Trekkin'. Carel was very distinctive in dancing. Majel was mixing with fans. I tried some of the dances (with little success). Energetic Donna never stopped all night.




I am before we had a rest, and even did a bit of packing. There were 2 further video duties (up to 4am) . Only a dozen diehards left.

Monday - Wakecall and breakfast. The videos were old ones which gave us time to check out and pack. Last look in the dealers' room and got Majel's autograph. Noon approached, and we lost George for the closing ceremony (he eventually appeared). All three guests arrived. First, the winners of the fancy dress, poetry, short story and artwork got their certificates. The con charity got £2000 and our guests were given gifts. Carel got a quaich (friendship cup), Richard a piece of Wedgewood (he lost a lot of his collection in the earthquake) and Majel (?) Then Majel closed the con, but wants to come back as "you throw one hell of a party!" Everyone started disappearing home, but the videos carried on till 9.30 pm.

Some dealers had a sale before packing. We went for a Chinese meal before returning to watch 6 hours of videos in a fairly full hall. The music videos were good. So ended another smashing con, with farewells to the committee, having already registered for next year.

I think this con, for events and guests, even surpasses the 92 con with George - or at least equals it for entertainment.

Lack of space in IDIC means my full 26-page con diary won't see the light of day - unless you want a copy? 

I WAS DOING GREAT UNTIL I MET THE PROJECTOR FROM HELL!

(Dennis Ashton, closing ceremony)

or maybe

GOWRON MEETS SHAKESPEARE

The Bolivian Terrorist, live from the Lightspeed

'95 Dealers' Room

Well that's half a hundred words. Lightspeed 95 Location, Leeds Hilton alias the Dragonara. Guess what? We had problems with the lifts. Judith reckoned it was because they just weren't used to coping with a con. Well there was a smell of smoke on Sunday afternoon, and the lefthand one either got stuck on the tenth floor or needed the door open button to actually open the door on your floor - this at 1 am on Sunday - ah the pleasures of night stewarding!

The same day we had the delight of the lift lurching downwards past every floor - could we get it to stop at reception? As I was in the Kitson Suite, part of the three-room Dealers' room, on the 4th floor and Reception on the 3rd floor I took the stairs!

The great claim for this con, as far as the wide majority of people seemed to be concerned, was its acquisition of all of Season 3 DS9 and season 1 Voyager. I didn't get to see one episode, though the video rooms were crowded. I spent my time socialising, chatting with Janet Ellicott in the Kitson Suite. She had the table next to mine.

Three dealers rooms...but very little trade. At the end of two days Janet had moved the grand total of 3 (yes you did read that correctly) zines. We did slightly better but 2 handmade bracelets and 17 tribbles isn't exactly very good - and on top of that the hotel had the chingado cheek to charge me £15 extra because my room-mate didn't turn up until the second night. What a start for a dealer!!!!

This was certainly a Klingon Konvention, as there were representatives from the Klingon Strike Force, Klingons Unite and Khemorex Klinzhai vying for the attention of guest of honour Robert (Gowron) O'Reilly. He spent the Sunday morning small hours dancing in the Disco. During the fancy dress

which was by photocall, he complimented me on my costume...which was exactly the same one I'd worn at Lightspeed 93. Winner, incidentally, was Ann Lindup, one of a whole horde of Klingons.

Also present in force was London's AKFT, one of whose members should carry a Government Health Warning. Those readers who have been in fandom a while will already know him; you can usually find him chatting up the nearest young lady in the bar. Fortunately the rest of the AKFT are just totally off-the-wall and very helpful.

Before the Closing Ceremony Bob O'Reilly treated the audience to several recitations from Shakespeare, all of them in Gowron's voice. Yes, as Judith said, this guy would be great at Stratford. He had also brought a script to auction, the Voyager episode Cathexis signed by all the cast. It went for £210.

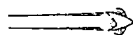
Dennis Ashton. You can't but sympathise. I went to his second talk, having promised myself I would. It was on the subject of cosmic collisions (nothing heavy, just very entertaining) and had the slide projector worked probably would not have been quite as enjoyable. As it was it kept getting stuck and in desperation Dennis resorted to anecdotes to while away the time while they found him a replacement projector. He deserves a medal!!! Best of the crop? Getting stuck in the traffic heading for a rave while stargazing in the Derbyshire Peak District.

Lightspeed 95 was not my kind of con. If I'd been a member of what I've come to term the "video brigade" then maybe it would have been. But I seem to recall several stewarding duties sitting outside video rooms having to tell attendees which episode was being shown (the programme changed so

often it ended up being posted in the lifts!) and buttonholing Security, Tech Team or even Committee members en route to Ops and scrounging cups of coffee to do something for my dry throat. I've seen enough episodes to not want to sit in a stuffy darkened room, slowly overheating (my asthma did play up but not seriously) for more time than I absolutely have to. I can

wait.

The hitches that were apparent last time have been ironed out, well done committee, but surely that's half the fun of a con - you never know what's going to go wrong next. Sorry, but I'm not sure if I'll be back... by Friday night I think mild boredom had set in.



SUMMER SCI-FI CON REPORT (Dublin - 26/27th August 1995)

The Summer Sci-Fi Non-Experience or "pregnant pauses permeated the podium"

by Anny (Con report) and Damon Wise (Denise Crosby report).

To start with I wish to point out that I am a great fan of Quantum Leap and especially Al - after all Dean Stockwell was a heart throb when I was a teenager. I really enjoy Babylon5 and have converted a few local people (including members of my family). So when I went to visit the RDS on Saturday 26th June as a member of the press, I was a well informed one. My involvement in Star Trek was due to following in Damon's footsteps and I am not one those people who exclude any other TV series. I like Sci-Fi, which includes Star Trek.

Now back to the Summer Sci-Fi experience. Despite all the above I found it a non-experience.

It was a roll on roll off Q & A guest show. (Or to be exact - a puff of smoke then roll of and on-guest show). This puff of smoke was the only special effect - and the Video show was extracts and bloopers as fill-in between the guests. Stargazer International Ltd.'s professionalism would appear to be materialistic it did not seem to involve the well-being of either audience or guests. These guests found themselves on the stage coughing through the smoke without Chairman, seat, drink or any comforts. I will concede that if the audience capacity had been full - or even half - the whole show might have moved better, but this was not the case and "pregnant pauses permeated the podium."

I felt particularly sorry for Andrea Thompson, wife of Jerry Doyle, who was

making her stage debut at the RDS - she could have done with more support - or at least some support other than the fee paying public. Andrea filled in for Claudia Christian who was unable to make it.

Jerry Doyle was excellent - with a real stage presence, the right sense of humour (being of Irish extract). He brought in the bloopers which were worth a laugh or two. Dean Stockwell, cigar in tow, was also very professional, and Denise Crosby came over as a natural - but with all of them the audience was not large enough to carry this form of show. The Dealers' room was badly attended by both Dealers and members of the public.

One thing which did work out was the autograph sessions - for here everybody not only got an autograph, but most people also got a special photograph with the stars - this would not have been the case if the capacity had been greater - in this case those who paid the most for their tickets would have been given preference.

Simon and Rayna Jenkins, the organisers, were not happy with the way things went on the Saturday and I understood it was no better on the Sunday. They thought the venue was wrong and could not understand the publicity not working and plan to try again next summer - this time instead of clashing with Irecon they would clash with VISICON.

A word of advice - the Irish do not like

professionals at the best of times - and even more so from England. The Irish like it laid back and done by the Irish. Perhaps it did not work because "you" (Stargazer) were just not wanted.

The talks by Dean Stockwell (QL), Jerry Doyle (B5) and Andrea Thompson (B5) were very interesting. The Trek guest was:

DENISE CROSBY

(Tasha Yar and Sela from The Next Generation)

She left the show, as it was "purely an artistic choice", her "part was a glorified extra" and was "not satisfying enough as an artist". She talked about Eric Stillwell (From Horizon Conventions) who she said used to get the tea and coffee, she called him "an Oregon gopher", who after 3 years with the Next Generation wrote "Yesterday's Enterprise".

About Data being "Fully Functional", she went on and said that "Brent told me to tell you like that he's got a couple of speeds, like a blender.". "He's got a great sense of humour". A member of the audience said that Data's grief in "Skin of Evil" was Brent at his best, to which she said "Yes, I think so too - it was a difficult episode - so sad, and that everyone was trying to be humorous. She did her scenes off camera to try to keep herself appropriate to all the members of the cast.

"The wave," she said "was a joke, and she could not believe that they kept it in. It was a complete goof". A member of the audience asked if she had any say on how Tasha died, to which she responded: "Gene (Roddenberry) made the decision to shock the audience to create disbelief. She would like to have died in a battle - a real bloodbath."

"Gene is the voice and inspiration of the show - without him it's carrying on, but without him it passes on to people without vision - a second generation facsimile. She was saying that in the beginning they had no idea of how to run the ship, and were touching all the buttons on the panels, to which Michael Okuda (the Technical person

on the show), in his soft spoken voice said: "I do not think it takes so many buttons to run a ship".

She jokingly asked the audience about the Ferengi. "Were we supposed to be afraid of them? Ferengis have, like, a big butt on their head." One thing, she went on to say was the turbolift doors, which wouldn't open - they thought the guy running them was reading a magazine or something.

She said she has no regrets (for leaving the Next Generation); "for me it's a stepping stone - I'll always come back and do something else. No regrets." Somebody heard that she was planning to get married in Ireland (being Irish). She went in detail into describe how difficult it was. She thought it would be kind of wonderful and romantic, but was just too difficult.

She loved doing Pet Semetary - it was "Wonderful". She was a big Steven King fan and had read the book before - it's chilling. She went to say "Absolutely" and talked about having gone to the Irish National Library in Kildare Street, where she read and learned about our history and culture.

She went to talk about all the complaints and protest letters they started getting about starting another Star Trek, and that the classic cast came to visit the set, and even starred in some episodes. When Shatner came to visit it was tense having the two captains together, but he patched up with Stewart doing the riding scenes together in Generations.


Kate Mulgrew (another Irish woman) is the only Captain with hair - you would have thought that they've found a cure for baldness. "Armin" (Shimerman), she said "is a special friend of mine you know; we were supposed to be here in June. I just love that little Butthead."

When they were filming, Denise begged Marina not to play Bon Jovi at 6 am during make-up. They used to have little fights for control of the dial and cassette deck and play anything but Jon Bon Jovi. Denise's boyfriend Ken is working on Gunshoes. She was asked what do her family and friends

think of her working on Star Trek, to which she replied "Mother is so proud".

Somebody asked: "Is Patrick Stewart straight-faced off-set", to which she responded, "No, he loosens up a little - he wears tights, etc. He's kind of serious, but has this dark wicked side, and plays a floppy Interior Decorator in Jeffrey." She finished off by saying that the fans have been so

supportive - give something back - and she is delighted to meet the fans and give something back.

Bing Crosby's grand-daughter and the 1979 (A Different Kind of Crosby) and 1988 re-print (Security of the Future) feature 'articles' in Playboy are off-topic subjects for her. 

STAR TREK GENERATIONS

a point of view

by Marcia Stanislawski

A bottle tumbles slowly through space, turning end over end until it finally smashes on the hull of the Enterprise-B. Thus began ST Generations, one of the most eagerly awaited movies in history - for ST fans, at least.

Many people found the opening sequence of the movie beautiful, still others thought it was boring. But the controversy doesn't stop after the bottle smashes - it's as if the breaking bottle was a sign, and each glass fragment represents a different point of view. Never was a ST movie so loved and so hated all at once.

There *are* many holes in the plot, and fans were quick to find them; but the three main points of contention are, without a doubt, the destruction of the Enterprise-D, Kirk's demise and the new, emotional Data.

We asked ourselves: why? Why destroy, kill, or change things that for us were so precious? What was the movie trying to say?

Here's what I think.

This is a dark movie; death and destruction abound in it, and the main characters are given a fair share of pain, a sense of failure, regret and obsession. The lighting is dim, the music is eerie and haunting, and the whole story has an unreal feel to it. All of these give the movie a nightmarish aura, and even though there's a brief respite for Picard and Soran where the dream turns into bliss, the pain is still there,

lurking deep within them. But Picard merges with the pain instead of letting himself be drowned by it - he makes it a part of him, a part of his life he must come to accept, while Soran chooses to make this pain his enemy by running away from it, and so he can never heal.

Data lets himself be overtaken by fear, and as a consequence of his action - or inaction - his best friend is kidnapped and tortured and the Enterprise is destroyed.

And then there's Kirk. He's feeling tired, old, maybe even a little bitter - his best years are behind him, yet he still feels the need to make a difference - after all, it's in his blood. So he's also feeling torn apart.

Both Kirk and Picard are wondering if the choices they've made through the years are the right ones, but the 'could've beens' are endless, and what's the point, anyway? You can't go back, you can only live an illusion, but then are you really living? No.


And Data? Some may think he's reached the end of his quest, but the truth is, his quest has just begun. Now he can taste fear and love and choose his path among many, when before he was limited to only one path.

So this is what the movie tries to say; live your life and make the best of it, cherish every moment but don't dwell on the past - don't let pain and fear overwhelm you; learn from them. Time is your companion and life is a journey.

Dark visions can bring you light if you only know how to look at them.

Kirk may be dead and the Enterprise-D may be gone. But we knew and loved them, so they'll always live in our hearts.

Some day our trek will reach the stars - but even then we will still all be companions in a Human trek that will last forever.

And beyond. 

THOUGHTS ABOUT THE PAST AND THE FUTURE OF DEEP SPACE 9

by Anike Bissinger

After reading so many negative comments about DS9 from Trekkers in the past, I just want to state, in this article, my opinion of why I like this series so much (far better than TNG, actually, but that is another matter entirely).

To put it in one sentence: I like DS9 because it is different.

Most people criticise the series in comparison to TNG, TOS or even Voy, but this is just like comparing apples with oranges (or Kirk with Picard). DS9, as all the other series, has its own identity, its personality if you will. Yes, DS9 is darker, the stories are more political and less action orientated, but this is because the setting in itself needs to be handled this way. It would just make no sense to have the same station in trouble plot week after week, for a station, unlike a ship, is not confronted with dangers all the time.

I like that, because this station shows the Star Trek universe from a slightly different angle, an angle that is fresh and new. Finally we can stay at a place for some time and watch the development of a planet, or deal with the long-term effects of a problem. The DS9 crew cannot just insult the Bajorans one week and be light years away from them the next; they have to deal with them on a permanent basis. (And I think those political stories are one of the most interesting aspects of the series, by the way.)

It is true that DS9 does not have as much action and running around because of this fact, but the stories are nonetheless very powerful and involving. I mean, Duet is finest classical drama, as is Cardassians or Necessary Evil; and Facets, which just

explores Jadzia's insecurities - an episode lacking in any sort of physical action - is one of the most emotionally involving I ever watched. Then there are many episodes like Captive Pursuit, Armageddon Game or Whispers, where I regularly find myself seated on the couch biting my fingernails and wondering what will happen next.

DS9 also has a big portion of humour in every episode, humour originating within the characters most of the time, not from the situations they are in; the kind of comic relief I hadn't encountered since TOS.

I also read that many people feel there is too much conflict amongst the crew. It started out that way, yes, but by now, at the end of the third season, this crew acts more like a family than the TNG crew ever did (in my opinion); by now Sisko trusts Kira completely - even if they do have their disagreements once in a while. Kira and Jadzia are the best of friends; O'Brien and Bashir have one match after the other; Odo and Kira have a very deep friendship (and there is no love story yet); and even Quark is well-liked amongst the crew once they knew how to deal with him). Oh, and don't let me forget the deepest, strangest and most interesting friendship of all, that between Bashir and Garak, which is one of the most alive relationships in Star Trek so far. All those characters are so well-defined, so alive, so multi-dimensional! Yes, they do have their flaws. O'Brien may be prejudiced sometimes, Bashir too arrogant, and Kira too hot-headed, but hey, who doesn't? Nobody is perfect, not even in the 24th century - and it is how they deal with those flaws that is important. It is like Data said in The Offspring: "It is the struggle itself that is most important. We must strive to be more than we are. It does

not matter that we will never reach our ultimate goal; the effort yields its own rewards." And the crew of DS9 does truly try.

Now, in the fourth season, Worf will join the crew as a regular, and I find myself fearing for DS9 as I know and love it. Apart from the fact that the reason printed in IDIC 41 seems to be rather implausible to me (I mean, where is the logic in stationing an officer to face the Klingon threat on a station as far away from the Klingon Empire as possible?) I fear that this TNG character will further change the identity of "my" DS9.

First changes were made in the 3rd season, when the Defiant was brought in and many of the series' semi-regulars were either killed off (Bareil) or sent away (Keiko and Molly, Martha and now maybe Nog) - and

now Worf.

Don't get me wrong; I love Worf, and Michael Dorn, but in my opinion Worf is a TNG character who has no reason whatsoever to be on DS9 - except to improve ratings. In giving DS9 a ship, in assigning Worf to the station, DS9's 'personality' will, I fear, be lost, while trying to turn it into something like TNG in order to attract more viewers - which, in my opinion, will be rather unlikely, for such tactics as this may well turn off those people who like the series as it is.

I would rather see DS9 cancelled than see it turn into a feeble and strange shadow of what it once was. I wonder what do the rest of you think?



Why Vedek Bareil had to die

by Albert Rosenfield

It distresses me, the resistance that Fandom has built up to change. We like to think of ourselves as open minded and forward thinking, but when it comes to it, are we really? It was once said *change is the essential process of all existence*. Instead, status quo can all too easily become stagnation, and nowhere have the trends become so obvious in the life and the fan response to the death of Vedek Bareil on *Deep Space Nine*.

When Bareil was introduced in the first season episode *In The Hands Of The Prophets*, his character served the main plot function as a foil against Vedek Winn, that the unrest among the Bajorans and the struggle to become Kai might be shown, and a subsidiary function of a romantic interest for Major Kira. Note at this point I say interest - there were subtle hints, but nothing deeper. It was not until the second season that this second role became emphasised, and any dramatic potential the character held was washed aside. Other than the orb dream sequence in *The Circle*, Bareil's only role in the opening trilogy was to find disguises for Dax and Kira.

As the season progressed, the

relationship between the characters progressed, but did not deepen. It got to the point where, in *Shadowplay*, Quark himself points out that Bareil is nothing more than a distraction to Major Kira, and this is the crux of the matter: rather than introducing a new character who would set off new dynamics within the series, the producers found they had instead taken the edge of their strongest existing character.

Gone was bold, defiant, deeply troubled Kira Nerys, ex Shakaar resistance fighter. Forgotten was the struggle between her heritage and her duty, her beliefs and her loyalty. Instead she was complacent, tied down, half the person she had been. Yes, it was good to see this side of Nerys, to see her get a chance at the happiness she deserved after so many years of hardship - but was it worth losing the spark that made her special?

The only exception to this trend was *The Collaborator*, and it is by no means irrelevant that this episode was one in which their relationship and loyalties were tested. Happy families do not make strong dramas, they make sitcoms. This was an example of what DS9 does best - a strong political

thriller. *Star Trek* has always been strongest when observing or commenting on our lives and situations. Outside of the cosy traditional *Star Trek* formula, DS9 is uniquely equipped to do this, but sadly does so too infrequently.

The major complaint over Bareil's death, however, is upheld. The character need not have been killed off - developed, yes, or even written out, but not killed, and certainly not in so demeaning a fashion. Gene Roddenberry said that science fiction was believable stories in an unbelievable setting. How are we expected to believe Dr Bashir that all is well when Bareil is walking around like something from *Bride Of Frankenstein* or worse, *Spock's Brain*? And was it not stated, only two years ago in *Descent II* that positronic brain implants were unfeasible and would result in permanent damage to the subject? If Bareil really had to die, it should have been slowly from the radiation damage, not killed in the teaser to be brought back just to die again.

Since his death, DS9 has changed again, most evidently in *Shakaar*. Kira has her grief again - she must once again balance her feelings and her loyalty, her duty to the Kai, and the fact that she blames the Winn for the death of her lover. This episode is again DS9 at its best - no violent deaths, no space battles, no explosions, only a single shot fired, yet the tensest scenes and the greatest power shifts since Opaka died.

Bareil's death also opened up another avenue of plot development - Kira and Odo. They are the two strongest characters in the series, and have a genuine respect and fondness for each other. In many ways it is reminiscent of the relationship between Captain Picard and Doctor Crusher - the way they can talk to each other, allow the audience into what they are feeling because they have at last found someone they can really trust, because they are such close friends...and so much more. And what kept that relationship alive and interesting was the fact that they both knew it could never work, and had to deal with each other - and themselves - on that basis. The Odo/Kira relationship is even stronger - she is unaware

of his feelings towards her, and he is too proud to ever tell her. Remember the way it was so much fun to watch Patrick Stewart and Gates McFadden together back in 1989, how well they worked together as a team? That is exactly what is present between Nana Visitor and Rene Auberjonois - and precisely what was lacking between Nana and Philip Anglim.

The most worrying aspect of Bareil's death is the refusal of some to accept it, culminating in a proposed letter writing campaign. This is stirring up more controversy than Kirk's death in *Generations*! For myself, I find Shatner's comment that "in *Star Trek*, death isn't forever" cause for concern in itself, but for quite different reasons, ones that Viacom would no doubt sympathise with. This is a matter for a separate article. But it is this straw to which the Friends Of Vedek Bareil are clutching - "Death, after all, is hardly a permanent state on *Star Trek*," they write. Even if this were true - again, I could argue this point at length, but simpler to state that no character has returned permanently in their original form without an explanation already built into the plot - does this mean this is a privilege which can be abused in this manner? Why stop at Bareil? Let's bring Opaka back through the Wormhole. Let's have all those Redshirts we've always been so good at losing! Let's have David Marcus back!...except we can't, because in real life people really do die, and no amount of letter writing or stamping of feet will bring them back. To protest otherwise does nothing other than demean the value of the life that has been lost, and anything that person may have died for. Vedek Bareil died for a cause, something he believed in and felt *was* worth dying for - if you all feel so strongly about it, would you be the ones to say he was wrong, to take him back from where he walks with the Prophets?

Gene Roddenberry said that Geordi LaForge would never regain normal vision - to do so would be a cruel slap in the face to all the disabled people in the world that he represents - they will never enjoy sight, mobility, or speech, so how can he when they all cannot? Gene agreed with Denise Crosby

when she felt she had to leave the series. Would you argue with him? Now he is gone, too. Can you deny that?

Immortality consists largely of boredom. Death is an inevitable part of life. It adds a sense of completeness, the final chapter in a well written book. You can only grow

beyond your anger and grief once you have accepted this. Remember -

Death is that state in which you exist only in the minds of others, and so it is not an end. No goodbyes, just good memories. Hailing frequencies closed.



A Question of Sentience?

Neil Barrett

I've been thinking a little more about the 'Identity Crisis' problem that Edward Woo raised in IDIC 37 and Bill McClure & Rory Smith have since taken up in later IDICs. It seems to me that the point is not so much whether Picard is right to put the planet into quarantine but whether he was failing in his duty by not attempting to communicate.

Has Picard broken the Prime Directive by depriving the Tarchannens of their means of reproduction? Only if it actually applies here. The Prime Directive is usually expressed in terms of not interfering with the normal development of a society. This can lead to the problem of deciding what is normal. We have no right to impose our idea of normality on any other society no matter how peculiar or abhorrent their lifestyle may appear to us. Kirk and Spock challenged this problem a few times and seemed to establish a working rule that where a society has been contaminated and turned aside from a normal path, then it is acceptable to intervene and attempt to repair the damage. Examples include obviously 'Patterns of Force' and 'A Piece of the Action' but also 'Friday's Child', 'The Omega Glory' and 'A Private Little War'.

We don't know what is normal for the Tarchannens. Should we assume that it is natural for them to reproduce by absorbing unwary space travellers? I think not. We don't know how much of the personality remains intact. It may be that the incorporation of the first landing party has already disturbed the Tarchannen society and therefore Picard is right to prevent further contact. Surely the Tarchannens cannot always have relied on extra-terrestrial species for reproduction. My guess would be that

there is or was another humanoid species also inhabiting the planet who are or were the original reproductive partners of the dominant 'lightbulb' species. If this hypothetical species was unavailable for some reason (plague, natural disaster) then the Tarchannens we encountered turned elsewhere. As Rory says, by cutting off this external supply, Picard is actually allowing nature to take its course and thus upholding the Prime Directive.

There is another angle to the Prime Directive to be considered. It only applies to sentient beings; lifeforms which have demonstrable intelligence and free thought. Do we really know whether the Tarchannens are sentient or are they animals? They exhibit behaviour patterns that might suggest intelligence but so do many earth animals that we do not consider to be sentient. This dilemma was raised much earlier in 'Devil in the Dark' where we discover that the Horta is an intelligent being rather than the mindless creature that the miners set out to hunt and destroy. Spock's abilities came in handy to make contact and prove the point. On the other hand, in 'Operation Annihilate!' Spock was able to determine that the flying parasites were not sentient and Starfleet was justified in destroying them to protect others.

Thus, I believe Picard was right to quarantine the Tarchannens to prevent harm to others but not to leave it at that. Now that the Federation is aware of this new species it has the duty to investigate, to make contact and to discover whether this is a new intelligent species and does the Prime Directive apply. Communication (if possible) must be established before we can decide the

future of a species whether they are sentient or not.

The question of sentience crops up again in 'Quality of Life'. The episode has a number of themes but the one that interests me is whether the Exocomps are actually alive or are they just very advanced automated toolkits. Despite the sacrifice of one of their number to save the others (plus Picard and LaForge) I'm not convinced that the question was answered. Given the amount of prior experience with artificial intelligences I'm rather surprised that it was such a difficult question to answer.

Let's start with the good doctor Farillon (I think that was the name). Here we have one of the recurring themes in Trek, the obsessed scientist. Dr F adapted and improved the exocomps by giving them heuristic programming, i.e. the ability to learn and to improvise. Are we to believe that she did this by accident? I doubt it. More likely that she incorporated established AI techniques and then tinkered with them to the point where the border between programming and self-awareness becomes hazy. Her desire to complete the fountain project overrides closer inspection of what she was doing with the exocomps that we can partly understand but she is portrayed as if she did not know or care about anything else.

Data's discussion with Crusher on the nature of life is really there for the benefit of the stupid viewer. Clearly he could have looked up any number of reference works in the fields of biology, philosophy, or cybernetics - in fact he should already have considered a lot of this before starting work on Lal. Data's arguments against Bev's standard definition are also rather simplistic. Data claims he does not grow. He may not grow in stature but he learns and he discovers and he creates - all forms of intellectual growth. Data claims he does not reproduce. Neither do I at the moment but I'm pretty sure I'm still alive. Data has the potential for reproduction, he proved this with Lal. The fact that this reproductive effort was unsuccessful is not valid.

Data continually tells us he is trying to

decide or prove whether the exocomps are alive when he really should be finding out if they are intelligent or not. The key piece of evidence is not that the exocomp showed an instinct for self-preservation but that it was able to burn out its own control circuits and repair them afterward. It does not require a great deal of intelligence to flee a dangerous situation; instinct will suffice. Choosing self-mutilation over certain destruction is a little more advanced but animals caught in traps have been known to bite off the trapped limb to escape. However, by only causing damage that it could repair, the exocomp is exhibiting a more sophisticated form of intelligence. At a guess this places the exocomp at least on a par with the apes.


Data, however, seems to have missed this reasoning. When the exocomp apparently fails the first test he continues by repeating the test another 34 times. Good scientific practice suggests that he ought to repeat the test to confirm his findings but 3 is enough. The time would have been better spent devising alternate tests. Once Data and Bev have developed the alternate hypothesis that the exocomp was able to detect and ignore the simulation they should have developed a new test. Perhaps the writers skipped over realism here since if Data had collected any hard evidence that the exocomps were living, thinking beings it would have weakened the dramatic confrontation with Riker.

As with Picard and the inhabitants of Tarchannen III, the real problem is failure to communicate. Why did it never occur to Data to try and make contact with the exocomp and prove or disprove his theory conclusively? When the suspect exocomp was brought into Engineering one of the first tasks was to link it into the engineering computers to run a diagnostic. Data uses the computer terminal in his quarters to investigate further. Both cases were the opportunity to communicate was not taken up. I was waiting for the scene where Data linked himself to the exocomp; he may not be able to mind-meld as Spock did in similar situations but in this case all he needs is a length of fibre-optic cable. Perhaps he was a little nervous about setting up an interface after the problems of 'A Fistful of Datas'.

It's not unreasonable to think that the exocomps are capable of communication. Surely that's one of the basic definitions of intelligent life. They at least have a control language through which Dr F gave them orders. With the benefit of hindsight we can reason that they must have been able to communicate amongst themselves in order to come up with an alternative plan and for one to decide to sacrifice itself in favour of the others. Even in the epilogue we only get the promise that the exocomps will not be used as slave labour. No suggestion that anybody try and communicate now that they have been proved sentient.

The most annoying fact is that none of this is new to the crew of the Enterprise. The TNG gang may not have had Kirk's wide ranging experience of mad computers but they have encountered non-biological life before. Remember the nanites that Wesley created in 'Evolution'? They were

threatening the whole ship until contact was made and a new race was discovered. This should have given Data a clue. We could still have had the dramatic climax as Data asked the exocomps to help out and the sacrifice could have still been done. Perhaps the writer just forgot or the aim was to emphasise Data's increasing humanity as he played a hunch and risked a court-martial for what he believed in.

I'm not suggesting that either of the episodes is really poor but I'm wondering if TNG has abandoned one of the original premises of Trek - "to seek out new life and new civilisation". Perhaps the demands of the networks or the different attitudes of a 90s audience have driven us more toward an action-oriented show than one that explores concepts. Maybe it's just the styles of different writers but I can understand why some Classic Trek fans feel they've been short-changed. 

SOCIETY IN THE 24TH CENTURY

by Marysia Kolodziej

No matter how hard we try we cannot produce a completely realistic view of the future. Our own taboos hold us back. Think about how far we have advanced socially in the past one hundred years. Could we have predicted one hundred years ago the changes that have occurred? We have gone from hiding our ankles from prying eyes to topless sun-bathing, from women and minorities being put down and not even taught how to read to women physicists. We have made as many great leaps as we have in the sciences; how many leaps will we have made in three hundred years? Even if we could predict some of them we would never be allowed to portray then on prime time television. It would be too shocking/frightening/offensive for the general public and the censors. So what might the universe really be like in the 24th century? What things may change?

The main things to be examined, the ones foremost in our mind, are religion and sexuality. Let us look at religion. At the

moment, church-going is decreasing. Although most people profess to believe in a God of some sort, very few choose organised religion. If this trend continues then perhaps Star Trek has unintentionally got it right. The only organised religion we - or at least, I - have seen has been Bajoran. We don't see Captain Kirk or Captain Picard going to church. Perhaps they are too afraid that Q will be there, especially after seeing Tapestry.

As for sexuality, well, here is the biggest problem - the thing we are most fascinated and most terrified by. What changes/advances will have occurred in three-hundred-odd years? At the moment, we have a dependence on male/female permanent bonding in the form of marriage. Unfortunately it is not very successful, as most people end up divorced. There is limited homo- and bi- sexuality and a strong if rather unsure censure on pornography on television and in magazines and books. So what is all this leading up to? Being no prophet, I make my own projections, based

upon my hopes and perceptions. Perhaps heterosexuality will become obsolete and bisexuality will prevail as people realise the differences between sexes are illusory and it is as easy to love beauty in a man as in a woman. Perhaps marriage, too, will become obsolete; or perhaps it will become transformed. This at least has been touched upon in Star Trek books. Group marriages and marriage contracts for a period of time seem a sensible successor to today's unsuccessful version of faithfulness and commitment.

But what of our taboos? What of clothing, age limits? I would like to think that the law of no sex under sixteen would remain, but then it is difficult and uncomfortable to imagine otherwise. Perhaps fourteen at a lowest limit? I would like to think it would never get lower, as all beings deserve their period of innocence.

As for clothing - fashion could lead us anywhere. Our taboos on clothing have gradually been drifting away with each successive generation and will probably disappear at some point in the future. But this does not mean everyone walking naked - do we really want it to? Perhaps it would be fine for a lucky few, but most of us prefer to keep our flaws under cover. Clothing will become as make-up and hair styles are today - for show and pride only (except in harsh conditions).

But what of the little things? Language, gestures, body language, etc. These things are perhaps the hardest to predict. Will shaking hands survive? Will we still say hello when meeting people? Certainly today's idiom is overly used in Star Trek, but we cannot prevent this. In order to get through to people, you must speak to them 'in their language'.

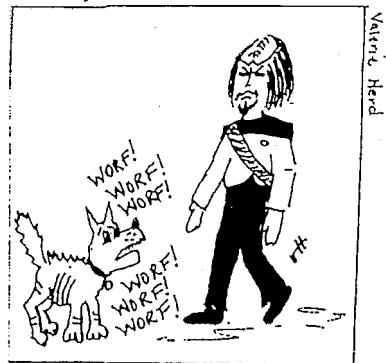
Another overused thing is today's hobbies. How often have we seen books, baseball, Shakespeare, Sherlock Holmes, building model ships etc, etc? 3-D chess is about the only new thing we've seen and it's built from a game we play. Would people still paint on canvas or would they paint holographically? We love our hobbies and

interests so much that we impose them into our future vision too.

However, we are not the only society in the 24th century. Are the alien societies at fault too? We all know that most of them are distinctly Human-looking and we may get bored with two eyes, a mouth and a lumpy nose, but we forgive them because we understand that there has to be a budget. But social faults are due to lack of imagination, not money. Don't you think alien species have a funny habit of pairing into male/female couples just like us? (In general. There are always exceptions.) Take Vulcans, for example. We seem to be obsessed with Human/Vulcan pairings. Rarely Vulcan/Vulcan or other species/Vulcan. Do we think we are so attractive that even a totally different species with completely different taboos, views, habits, would want to mate with us? The main problem with Star Trek aliens is, they are too Human socially. They eat like we eat, talk like we talk, use the same gestures that we do.

There have been leaps - for example, Darmok, where the aliens spoke a completely different way from us, and we often face aliens who eat things we find strange or frightening or disgusting - the aliens in Time's Arrow, for example, or the Salt Vampire (but both of these were 'enemies').

But although we can point out these flaws, they are nearly interchangeable. The hardest thing to do is to look at another kind of social view from your own - never mind try to create one as different from ours as an alien species... or our own species three hundred years in the future.



THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE BORING

by Jay Stevensen

Lots of fans do it. Most of them enjoy it, although many admit that some times it's better than others. And everyone seems to have different ideas about what makes it good. Yes, I'm talking about Reading the Pro Novels, an activity that seems to provoke a very wide range of critical opinions...my own usually being one of disappointment

I'm mainly interested in the original crew but far too many Classic stories fail to capture the Trek tingle. I can forgive thin plots, but not thin characterisation. The actors have provided a splendid blueprint for any writer to follow but in a depressing number of books Kirk, Spock and McCoy might as well be called Tom, Dick and Harry for all the resemblance they bear to the TV originals.

Lack-lustre writing is common in many TV and film spin-offs, but this doesn't make the peddling of bad fiction to fans any more excusable. It's as if the publishers are saying: we've got a ready-made audience out there. Never mind the quality, start counting the cash. And there's plenty to count. Pocket Books began releasing Star Trek in paperback in 1979. In 1994 they reported cumulative sales of 63 million, making them the best selling series in publishing history.

Neil Barrett (N/L 38 p77) thinks we might be setting our expectations a little high. But why shouldn't we? People get *paid* for writing this stuff, and fans are expected to pay to read it. It's true that no author sets out to produce a 'bad' book, but in far too many Classic writers seem to be working solely for their cheques. And it shows.

I do have some sympathy for the pros. There are (as Maurice Hurley points out in Great Birds of the Galaxy, here talking about Next Gen TV scripts) "rules on top of rules on top of rules" when writing Trek. This can be creatively limiting.... or challenging, depending on your attitude.

To get it right I believe you have to be a

fan. You have to *love* the characters. Being a sci-fi writer - even a good one - isn't enough. James Blish did marvellous script adaptations but although "Spock Must Die" might be an interesting sci-fi puzzle, is it good Trek? Joe Haldeman is a Hugo and Nebula Award winner but "Planet of Judgement" is unexciting and devoid of any real Trek feeling. David Gerrold wrote the definitive Trek fun script. It's hard to believe the techno-babbly "Galactic Whirlpool" was produced by the same man.

I believe it's easier to write a "long short story" (a TV length episode, if you like) than a full length Trek book, which could explain why we get so many blatantly padded plots. But it can be done. "The Tears of the Singers" (Melinda Snodgrass); "Prime Directive" (Judith and Garfield Reeves-Stevens) and "Strangers from the Sky" (Margaret Wander Bonnano) are three very different examples that I find successful.

Other writers manage it sometimes: Peter David, Howard Weinstein and Michael Jan Friedman have an uneven record. L A Graf is good on characterisation, but has a tendency to play down the Big Three in favour of Chekov, Sulu and Uhura. This is great for their fans, but my preference parallels Leonard Nimoy's opinion (quoted in Star Trek Movie Memories): "I have always felt that the dynamic between Spock, Kirk and McCoy was an incredibly important driving force behind the best of Star Trek."

Neil Barrett complains that too many pro writers are "using Trek to push their own ideas" (N/L 37 p67) although he does admit that this is "sort of acceptable when you consider that Classic episodes set the precedent" (N/L 38 p77). I would argue that it's more than "acceptable", it's virtually essential! To quote the Great Bird himself (in Cinescape, March 1995, here speaking about TV episodes, but the comments are equally applicable to the novels): "If anything characterises (Trek) it is a positive look at the human enigma, spiced with a bit of humour,

some speculation about 'truth', a bit of moralising, a bit of hope (and should make people feel) good about themselves and their life form."

Using these rules Trek could have carved a meaningful little niche for itself in the field of published space-opera. To quote Mr Nimoy again (here talking about ST:V):

"We're saying: 'Enjoy yourself, have a good time and don't mind us as we drop off a few ideas along the way.'"

The Voyage Home managed it. The novels could have done it too. But most of them haven't. I think it's a great shame, and a great opportunity missed.



WRITING FOR TREK

by Jean Sloan

The hardest thing in the world (in my estimation at any rate) is to write dialogue. It is a gift. Some people have an ear for it and can catch the inflections which differentiate characters. If you have that gift, and can think up a good story, you could write for Trek.

Trek is the only show in the US which accepts spec scripts from writers without agents, and DS9 and Voyager are now open to outside submissions. Lolita Fatjo promises that all scripts submitted will be read as long as the Submission Guidelines are followed.

The submissions guidelines are very comprehensive and cover such things as what sort of stories to avoid, what format to use, how to go about submitting. A script which contravenes the guidelines will be rejected immediately. To give an example of the nit-pickiness of the guidelines, you are asked to submit on 3-hole paper bound with 2 one-inch 'brad' fasteners.

If your script finds favour, several things could happen. The studio could buy the whole script; they could buy the IDEA (for about \$9000); they could like your work and ask you to come over and pitch other story ideas... Incidentally, there is no point in sending a story idea in synopsis; no-one will read it; you must submit in full script form.

Thousands of people submit and get rejected, but if that doesn't put you off and you have an original idea, then you can get a submission pack by phoning 001 213 956 8301.

It's my guess that a script for Voyager where the action took place on the ship and had no need of guests would be a good project - a cheap episode to shoot. With uncertainty about a 5th season for DS9, there may be less demand for new stories... but it IS only my guess.

Pocket Books also produces submission guidelines for ST novels, though I am unsure whether they are still accepting manuscripts from unagented writers. I intend to find out more about that, but if anyone has a novel burning a hole in the desk, you can obtain a novel submission pack from the publisher (not Paramount) by telephoning 001 212 698 7000 or by writing to Pocket Books, ST Editor, 1230 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10020, USA.



CONGRATULATIONS!

by Clare Finkel

The Enterprise had a baby! What do you think of that?! Guess it was all those family episodes got it excited. Personally, I'm looking forward to the end of this painful season. I'm also beginning to think that the writers, producers, etc, were being honest when they said they were running out of ideas. (I thought it was desire to make more money making movies.) If you think they shouldn't be - running out of ideas, that is - try writing a story. I've been trying for over two years and still am stuck with "Mary Sues" and my own limited view of the universe. Those of you who've written stories, tell the rest of us, it ain't easy. I know the professionals are professionals, but even the professionals have their limitations.

Back to the baby

Then I thought, that plot could have been pulled off on CT. Can't you see it? Kirk panicked by fear of losing his ship. Scotty going nuts with his engines. McCoy being dragged into the "medical" problem: "I'm a doctor not an engineer!" and Spock taking it all in his stride. To him, nothing unusual would be happening, and Nimoy would pull that attitude off with his usual suavity. Sulu and Chekov would be giving each other curious looks while listening to Spock's scientific explanation of how the ship was pregnant. Uhura would be awed with thoughts of motherhood. She could even make a significant contribution to the scientific study. Finally, Kirk would show his true love for his ship by his willingness to let "her" do anything "she" wanted, even if he wasn't the father. Scratch that part about Kirk not being the father. Scotty, with McCoy's help, would help it through its "labour" pains. Then, in the end, after the birth, they'd all be looking out the viewscreen in wonder of the universe. (That would be the heart of the story.) McCoy would make some awe inspiring comment about it, to which Spock would note human tendency to view themselves at its center. Kirk would come back with the reminder that humans were

part of it. "After all," he'd conclude, "without us, this wouldn't have happened." To McCoy's glee, Uhura's smile, and the other's hidden giggles, Spock would arch an agreeing brow. Then he'd say, "I believe that is what I said, Captain." Then, leaving the others to puzzle, he'd return silently to his station.

By the way, has McCoy ever said, "She's dead, Jim"?

So, is there a difference between CT and NG? Of course there is. The producers have told us they wanted it that way. One of the main writers said he never watched CT before doing NG. So then, what is Trek? Is it IDIC? If it's IDIC, does that mean ... is Trek?

Personally, I think, one hundred years from now, CT will be all that survives. It may even be required viewing in the schools. (TV will be as boring as books by then. That includes comic books.) One rebellious student will ask, "How could this Roddenberry think he could predict the future when he couldn't predict events in his own lifetime?" (Of course, that student would be referring to the eugenics wars that are not now taking place. (Thank goodness!) I know Gene is gone from us now, but there was still no sign of such wars while he was alive. Or was there? Well, that's another discussion.) The "wise" teacher will respond, "It's not specific events, but the way they unfold that he predicted. Kirk was every man, filled with fears, insecurities, and needs. He was just like us, but he reached beyond, within, anywhere he could in his fight for good over evil. He was a leader only because he, unknown to himself, inspired others to do the same. That was the basis of Spock's loyalty. Spock wasn't able to do this. He was more like us."

"Wait!" the rebellious one would interrupt. (Raising of the hand will no longer be required.) Then he would go into the usual tirade about Vulcans being superior to Humans.

With true patience, the teacher would explain, "Spock was what he was. He couldn't see something that wasn't there. He was a logical being."

A loyal female would then interrupt. (Females will still be in love with Spock.) "Spock said, 'There is wisdom beyond logic.'" Then she would cite occasions when Spock went beyond himself, including joining Starfleet, before he met Kirk, etc, etc. The rebellious student would remind her that Roddenberry was dead when "Spock" said that thing about wisdom beyond logic. She'd heatedly counter that Roddenberry didn't "take the Trek" alone. And so on the discussion would go; the thrust being, "If we want a better future, we puny people must do it ourselves."

Where does that leave NG, DS9, Voyager, etc? They're all a part of the struggle. (Maybe even a few episodes of each season will be required viewing in my fictitious future class.) In their reach, the creators took risks, just as I am doing in writing this, and made mistakes. They stereotyped some aliens beyond possibility, while making other aliens like ourselves. They had people doing jobs they couldn't do. (Forgive me. I'm so prejudiced toward CT that it's hard for me to see its mistakes.) But, among many other things, they (NG, etc) also gave (give) us a different view of the enemy, perhaps more realistic, and beyond CT in their wisdom.

In the end, it's up to us to see. Maybe... is Trek.



SPOCK & MCCOY

by Jenny Turner

SPOCK - I have always loved Spock but he always seemed a lonely figure until Kirk came along. From the first, Kirk was determined to get to know Spock as he really was, not as someone he wanted him to be. Spock responded, which in time led to the friendship between him and Kirk.

McCoy joined the Enterprise and tried to rile Spock, but obviously didn't succeed. Spock liked McCoy in his own way - thus the Big Three friendship. Spock must have had a really hard time of it on Vulcan as a child growing up as a high-bred one-off. I think he wanted to leave Vulcan partly because he was a scientist eager to learn the fascinating things "out there" in space.

I think Vulcan was a violent planet in the beginning, until they had something happen which nearly wiped them out, then came Surak and in turn the Vulcan Masters, when they learned to control their violence and emotions.

Sometimes Spock's logical side overrules his Human half, but Humans give up their lives for others, not just Vulcans! He left Starfleet for Kolinahr, then I think he realised his mistake. He still hadn't experienced all

that was out there, so he went back. He also missed Kirk and McCoy.

I think if Spock hadn't been in Star Trek - and he nearly wasn't - it wouldn't have been the same. He stood out from the rest and made us really think. When he went to Romulus, I thought he could make a difference, I suppose, but it still puzzles me why he went in the first place - plus if he was married, did he take his wife? And did he keep in touch with Kirk and McCoy through the years after they left Starfleet?

MCCOY - When I first started reading zines and books, I wasn't very keen on McCoy. He always seemed to be baiting poor old Spock! But I then realised it was McCoy's way of dealing with Spock, who he just couldn't rattle no matter what he did.

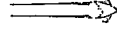
McCoy hated the transporter, and also moaned about sickbay, etc.

McCoy was obviously very hurt when his wife walked out, but if you are a doctor, or involved in any emergency service, or in the forces, etc, then you are always on call. McCoy's wife obviously didn't understand this.

All people make mistakes, and McCoy is no exception, but he is human, like us, and fallible. It wouldn't be the same without him. I wouldn't mind him treating me! He still throws wobblies; I liked the bit in Voyage Home when they going to slingshot round the sun and he said, "Just a goddam minute!", and when he was with Scotty at the Plexiglass factory. He has got a way with

people, there's no doubt about it, and that more than makes up for his other faults.

I saw DeForest Kelley at a con years ago - he looked ill, but when we asked him if he would be in any more Star Trek films or series, he said, "Yes, if I'm still around." Well, I hope he's around for a long time to come.



TIME AND RELATIVE DIMENSIONS IN SPACE

a brief explanation of those really confusing time episodes

by Judith Taylor.

Have you ever wondered why 'All Good Things' technically hasn't happened or why in 'Time and Again' the entire episode ceases to exist? Have you pondered on the fact that Soran can come back from the dead and that Kirk can still come back and save the universe again. Or have you sat through the episodes and said 'Huh?!'. But believe it or not all of what I said above is possible and more, and all because of that great fourth dimension, Time.

Time travel has always been a great medium for sci fi. with series like Dr Who, Quantum Leap, and Time Trax using it as a base story line. But it was after the criticism of the Voyager episode 'Time and Again' which led me to write this article, Somebody stated that the episode was okay until it fell back onto the cliché of 'It never happened', But this is exactly what would happen in a situation like the one presented in this episode. Time is like a huge root system which is affected by the decisions we make in life. Basically, it's the Trousers of Time effect; when you make a decision you have two choices, Yes and No. With each choice a time line branches off, so if you choose Yes you go down the Yes leg of the trouser until you reach another decision which creates a new set of trousers and you will choose another leg to go down. It is these alternative paths that lead to the creation of alternate universes. It is this situation that happens in 'All-Good Things'. Instead of travelling back in time in the present Trek universe we know, Q made Picard travel into the past, present and future of three separate time lines, the time line we know as the present

and two different timelines as Past and Future, which explains why Tasha Yar has a new hair style and why they don't meet Q in the alternate past.

SPOILER - VOYAGER

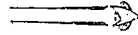
Time and Again is a story based on a time loop (very much like the episode 'Cause and Effect'). After being drawn to a planet by a huge explosion, Janeway and Paris are sent back through time because of rogue time bubbles which are drifting across the planet surface. These bubbles are caused by the explosion of their polaric, ion power systems. But Janeway and Paris's arrival in the planet's past cause the local militant environmental group to step up their plans to demonstrate the danger the power system is, and in an attempt by the Voyager crew in present day to create a tunnel from the future into the past to retrieve Janeway and Paris, they ignite the ion power system causing the chain reaction which destroys the world. This creates a loop, so if the Voyager didn't go to the planet then the loop would be dissolved because Janeway and Paris didn't go back in time and cause the explosion. This is what happens at the end, Janeway realises what happens and destroys the device the Voyager crew are using to open the tunnel, this means the time line is redundant because the tunnel doesn't trigger the explosion which doesn't draw the Voyager to the planet which means Janeway and Paris do not go back in time. This means time resets itself back before the loop begins and a new time line begins.

The TNG episode 'Parallels' is very

similar in theory to Quantum Leap. Worf jumps into the place of himself in alternate timelines (see also 'DS9 - Visionary') where all possible consequences are played out so there is a universe where the Borg won the battle and took over the Federation. The Federation is a warlike entity which is bent on domination, The Bajorans, Romulans and Cardassians teamed up. Wesley is a Lieutenant and a bridge officer.

So as you can see time is a very easy

thing to understand. A paradox isn't some kind of really technical thing if you just think of it as an impossibility in time. A time loop can be possible but gives you terrible Deja'vu, or in the case of Cause and Effect, Deja'vu, vu, vu, vu, vu. So if you're ever watching one of those terrible time travelling episodes and don't have a clue what's going on, remember the trousers of time, and that sometimes the legs get twisted, and it is possible to have an episode that doesn't exist.



HEY, LOOK WHO IT IS!

by James O Donovan

Inspired by comments in recent issues I have compiled this list of other TV and film credits for the DS9 crew. Much of this information appeared in the first issue of the OSTFCUK magazine, and the rest are from various other sources.

• AVERY BROOKS

TV

Spencer For Hire (regular)*

A Man Called Hawk (regular)

Solomon Northup's Odyssey (telefilm)@

Uncle Tom's Cabin

Brooks has a lot of theatre work under his est, and has performed with jazz stars such as Henry Threadgill, Jon Hendricks and Butch Morris. Brooks also worked on a project called X: The Life and Times of Malcolm X, an opera where he sang the part of Malcolm X.

• NANA VISITOR

TV

Ryan's Hope (regular)

One Life to Live (regular)

Working Girl (regular)

Empty Nest, Murder, She Wrote

Baby Talk

Jake and the Fat Man

LA Law

In the Heat of the Night

Matlock

FILM

The Sentinel

Visitor has also appeared in plays such as

Gypsy, 42nd Street and My One and Only.

• TERRY FARRELL

TV

Paper Dolls (regular)

Quantum Leap

The Crosby Show

Family Ties

FILM

Back to School

Hellraiser III: Hell on Earth

Farrell was a model before she took up acting and has appeared on the covers of Vogue and Mademoiselle.

• SIDDIG EL FADIL

TV

The Big Battalions

A Dangerous Man: Lawrence of Arabia

El Fadil's experience lies mainly in theatre, where he has worked on plays such as Hamlet, Arthur, and Sinbad the Sailor. He has also directed many plays.

• RENE AUBERJONIS

TV

Benson (regular)

The Legend of Sleepy Hollow

Faerie Tale Theatre

Matlock

Civil Wars

LA Law

FILM

M*A*S*H

Brewster McCloud

The Hindenberg

King Kong (1976 remake)

Police Academy 5

STVL: The Undiscovered Country

McCabe and Mrs Miller

The Eyes of Laura Mars

Batman Forever

His extensive theatre work has seen him work with the likes of Katherine Hepburn. He has also been nominated for a Tony Award three times and an Emmy Award twice.

• COLM MEANEY

TV

Z Cars

Strangers

Remington Steele

Moonlighting

Tales from the Dark Side

Dr Quinn: Medicine Woman (+pilot)

FILM

Dick Tracy

Die Hard 2

Far and Away

Under Siege

The Last of the Mohicans

The Commitments

Into the West

The War of the Buttons

The English Who Went Up a Hill and Came
Down a Mountain

Meaney's stage experience includes work in productions such as Fish in the Sea and Accidental Death of an Anarchist.

• ARMIN SHIMERMAN

TV

Beauty and the Beast (regular)

Brooklyn Bridge (regular)

LA Law

Married With Children

Who's the Boss?

ST:TNG The Last Outpost (Ferengi, Letek)

ST:TNG Haven (uncredited; animated head)

ST:TNG Peak Performance (Ferengi, Bractor)

Shirmerman's stage work has seen him perform with groups such as the Tyrone Guthrie Theatre, the American Shakespeare Festival and the New York Shakespeare Festival.

.

**Regular" means that the actor/actress had a starring role, or a regularly recurring role.

@A telefilm is an American idea, a film made specifically for TV, so it is unlikely that they would be found in a video shop.

This is by no means a complete list, and I would welcome any additions.



TOP OF THE POPS

by Kathleen Glancy

Spock's research into the popular culture of the latter half of the 20th century had not extended to the pop music charts. McCoy, who really should have known better after his experiences with television shows, nonetheless asked him to name some songs. It took McCoy weeks of poring over the charts of several decades before the first light dawned and he realised that "My Progenitor is a Functionary Who Removes Household Refuse at the Behest of the Local Environmental Health Authority" was actually "My Old Man's a Dustman". The

next were comparatively easy. They were -

1. We Will Be Reunited in the Future, Large Predatory Aquatic Reptile.
2. Oscillate for the Period of a Planetary Revolution, Measured by a Chronometer.
3. I Propose That We Resume Contorting Our Bodies.
4. I Am Consistently, if Ungrammatically, Discontented.
5. Farewell, Thoroughfare Constructed of Ochre Clay Formed into Rectangles and Baked Until Hard.

6. Reverberations of a Superior Quality.
7. I Entreat You to Render Me Happy.
8. Mixture of Gases Which Facilitates My Respiration.
9. The Star Around Which This Planet Orbits Is About to Burn Itself Out.
10. Female Monarch Indulging in Terpsichorean Activity.
11. Temporary Accommodation Where One Is Likely to Suffer Cardiac Problems.
12. Area of Great Natural Beauty in the South-West of Scotland.
13. Apparatus Producing a High-Pitched Chiming, Which Belongs to Me.
14. Footwear Constructed from Animal Hide Treated to Produce a Matt Texture then Dyed Azure.
15. Group of Musicians Who Are Members of an Association Devoted to Attempts to Find Romantic Partners, Run by a Non-Commissioned Officer Whose Surname is Also a Condiment.

"I suppose you found them all 'illogical'," said McCoy.

"They were all illogical, but one song was by far the least logical," Spock replied. "The singer apparently expected an edifice constructed of wood and stone to prevent his infant from leaving the conurbation. At any rate, he blames it for failing to do so."

McCoy knew he was going to regret it, but he had to ask. "What was that one called?"

"Large Ecclesiastical Building in the South-East of England, Situated in the Pre-London Capital City," said Spock.

"Huh?" said McCoy.

"Burial Place of Henry Beaufort, Izaak Walton and Jane Austen."

"Huh?"

"Not the Burial Place of St Swithin, Who Signified his Desire to Remain in his Original Place of Interment by Supernatural Interference With Climatic Conditions."

"Huh?"

"Ooh doh deeh doh."

McCoy, after reading more about Jane Austen than he ever had before, found the answer to that one too.

Answers on page 87

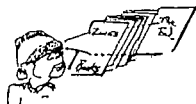
NEXT GENERATION QUIZ

by Michelle Oldroyd

1. How many *main* holodecks are situated on board the Enterprise?
2. What does LCARS stand for?
3. What is the greatest number of people who can be transported at any time from main transporter rooms?
4. How many settings does a standard phaser have?
5. Which officers can order the ship to go on red alert?
6. Where was Tasha born?
7. What century was Rasmussen actually from?
8. What are the names of Worf's adoptive parents?
9. What is the cloaked planet?
10. What is Ambassador T'Pol's real name?
11. On what planet was Data discovered?

Answers on page 87





ZINE REVIEWS

- **BOOK OF PROPHECY** by Gloria Fry
Reviewed by Joan Foxley

This is the first book of a two-volume Star Trek fantasy (influenced by, among other sources, Tolkien, Celtic mythology, adventure games, folk tales and The Water Margin) in which the command team of the (original series) Enterprise are kidnapped and 'transformed' by a sorcerer in order that they may fulfil the verses of an ancient prophecy and save his world from evil.

To do this, the crew members each have their own particular destiny to fulfil by the use of their own special skills which have been magically enhanced by the sorcerer.

In the best tradition of the adventure scenario, there are items to be obtained, magic properties to be discovered, good creatures and spirits of place who assist in the endeavour and a major evil force (aided by the customary malevolent servants) whose overthrow is the objective of the quest.

The crew progress both on their own and in groups - and not just the expected pairings: for instance, we find Nurse Chapel with Chekov and Sulu. The key group consists of Kirk and Spock, and although Kirk is the named superior, it is Spock who wields the power and strength derived from his hybrid nature.

The story is divided into chapters of varying length, each titled with the location (map provided inside front cover) in which the action is set or the fantasy character it features. The narrative is well-written with some humorous interludes - I particularly enjoyed the one where Spock learns to create light. The action is fluent, and is moved along briskly, with well-placed 'cliff-hangers' - bring on the next volume!

The dialogue (for speech and thought) is always neatly in character and allows the

author to explore her chosen character combinations. (The sorcerer is given a slightly archaic speech pattern which includes a few less-than-familiar words and you may need to consult a dictionary to get the full meanings for a couple of them around pages 20-21.)

There is some stunning artwork by Maggie Symon - I especially liked the drawing of Spock on the back cover. This picture has since been produced on T-shirts (M, L and XL) at £11 each, and notelets (60p each, plus 50p P&P for up to 10 cards). Please send an SAE to the author for details of availability.

Book of Prophecy (98 pages, A4 format, thermal bound, large type) is available (Price £5 inc. P&P) from Gloria Fry, 16 Frankfort St, Glasgow G41 3XG.

Kings of Prophecy, which will conclude the story, will be available later in the year.



NEW ZINES



See zine ads for ordering details.

Scotpress - MAKE IT SO 25 - A story set after the episode The Mind's Eye - can Starfleet trust Geordi again, or is he really a traitor?; Children have been kidnapped for sale as slaves. Can Riker use the rescue attempt to help him find his lost daughter? This is a sequel to Cuckoos in the Nest in MIS 24; Worf, Riker and Geordi get involved in a shore leave fight; after the Borg and Soong incidents, Picard and Data have doubts about themselves. UK £2.50.

IDIC - IDIC LOG 18; a novel, Dreams by Ruth King. This is a cross-series story in which Wesley, Geordi and Picard return to Kirk's Enterprise to prevent the Romulans from changing Federation history. UK £2.50.

REVIEWS - BOOKS/VIDEOS ETC.



• **FIRST FRONTIER** - Pocket Books £4.50
by Diane Carey and James I Kirkland
Reviewed by Catherine Carter

Well, I've had a lot of reactions to the pro-novels but this is the first one I've ever read that made me angry.

The Enterprise is testing a new type of shield, something goes wrong and while the ship is outside normal space the entire universe changes, not only has the rest of humanity disappeared, humans have never existed and folks, it looks like we'd be sorely missed. Someone has been mucking around with earth's evolution and it's up to our heroes to put things right.

This book had the potential to be one of the better TOS novels. The plot is interesting, the characterisation, especially of the big three, is excellent and although there is too much technobabble, at least it's dinosaur technobabble which makes a change. Ms Carey does an excellent Kirk, although lumbering him with a poisoned foot before the book starts struck me as a bit much, she even manages a Spock who is calm but not heartless and a McCoy who functions as a scientist as well as a bundle of emotional responses. For once they all come across as professionals doing their jobs and doing them well, working as a team with humour and intelligence.

So why am I complaining? I'll tell you why - this book has been neither proof-read nor edited. I know I've moaned about the attack of the spell-checker before but this book goes way beyond that. It contains not one or two but literally dozens of errors. 'Vilified' does not mean 'hate'; 'malaise' is not a verb meaning to complain; there is no such verb as 'abey'; how the hell does someone 'cloy to their work'; what is a 'surfeiting nod' and (my particular favourite) 'shriven' is not a combination of 'riven' and 'shrivelled' - I am prepared to believe a lot about a dead dinosaur but not that it went to confession before its untimely demise.

Why use a host of unsuitable alternatives for 'he said' including :- bolted, impugned, clipped, resigned, purged and even (saints preserve us) under-girded! Since when has asylum had 3 s's? There is a difference between forgotten and forgiven, uninterest and disinterest, passive and impassive. Anybody care to guess what a "rascal wire-puller" is and why does a crewman suddenly acquire twenty-foot arms? If Uhura's voice is described as "pedal-toned" - when did she become a basso-profundo? Why in Kahless' name is a Klingon gazing at Kirk with "roguish languor"(!)? I could go on and on and on.

A decent proof-reader could have dealt with all these, a decent editor would have demanded a plot that didn't rely on the entire universe altering during the only 4.5 minutes the Enterprise is outside the space/time continuum and on two Klingon prisoners who escape not once, not twice but three times. The palaeontology should have been cut by half and at least one entirely extraneous dinosaur fight removed.

Frankly I think Pocket Books have a nerve sending a book out in this condition and I am angered by the suspicion that they've decided we'll buy their stuff no matter how poorly it's presented.

5/10 because the mistakes are so distracting, would have been 8 or 9.

• **FIRST FRONTIER** by Diane Carey and Dr James Kirkland. Reviewed by Jean Sloan

The novel is the result of a collaboration between a dinosaur scientist and an author who happens to be an ST fan. It is the best ST novel I have read in a long time.

The premise upon which the story is based is a "What if..." - what if dinosaurs had not become extinct; if they had survived and evolved, what would have been the evolutionary result... The Enterprise is testing new shield technology when she becomes

involved in a Klingon/Romulan battle. A life pod is salvaged; in it is a Klingon who knows nothing of humankind. When the Enterprise returns to Earth to investigate, human civilisation does not exist; Earth is populated by dinosaurs. Has the ship travelled back in time, or into a parallel reality? And did the field tests cause the problem?

The novel reveals the answers to those questions in a taut descriptive narrative which kept me enthralled. I wasn't sharp enough to spot the clue to the answer in the first chapter, so I did not guess the conclusion. I enjoyed the dinosaur science, the description of habitat and of the creatures themselves, which is detailed enough to be atmospheric without detracting from the force of the narrative. Diane Carey knows the Enterprise crew well. The characterisations of Kirk, Spock and McCoy, and of their relationship, is spot on. To add a little extra zest here, Kirk spends the story suffering from the effects of the bite of "a hairy thrillkiller scorpion", a bite "seven times as toxic as the bite of a king cobra". The bite was sustained on a previous mission, but it allows Kirk to demonstrate his famous determination as he carries on through the crisis in the plot defying his life-threatening condition. It also allows Spock and McCoy to worry a bit!

The novel contains a forward by Dr Kirkland explaining how the book came to be written, and inviting interested parties to join one of Dinamation International's archaeological digs.

There aren't many novels that I like to re-read. This novel becomes my second favourite (not counting the film novelisations) My favourite remains *Strangers from the Sky*. First Frontier - 10 out of 10 for enjoyment.

• **THE LAERTIAN GAMBLE** by Robert Sheckley Pocket Books DS9 12 £4.50
Reviewed by Sheila Clark

Allura has come from the planet Laertes to gamble at Quark's. Because her race is mildly telepathic, she is not permitted to do so - but she persuades Bashir to gamble for

her. The stakes are frightening - the game must continue until one or other of the participants is completely bankrupted.

Bashir, it seems, cannot lose; and by Laertian law, where Quark lives is counted as part of his possessions. As Dax and Kira go to Laertes to seek a way of stopping the game, Quark is forced to sell more and more of DS9 to cover his losses - and with a Laertian warship nearby, threatening violence if Sisko tries to stop the game, there seems to be nothing Sisko can do to save DS9.

Although there is a secondary theme involving the mysterious destruction of land and property, this is incidental to the main plot, a byproduct of it. It makes quite a pleasant change to have a plot that is not, in itself, a threat to the Galaxy and Life As We Know It. The actual denouement is something of an anticlimax, almost a cop-out, certainly very 'blink at the wrong moment and you'll miss it'-ish, occupying as it does a full 5 pages of the book.

I'd give this one a marginal 7 out of 10 - 6 is probably fairer - because it's a pleasant enough read, a book to while away an hour in the dentist's waiting room (if anyone were to go in an hour early!); but since we know that DS9 has to be there for the next book, we know that a resolution *will* be found, and the writing, alas, is not gripping enough to let us forget that.

On a more practical side, neither do I care for the many ultra-short chapters into which the book is divided. 73 chapters in 273 pages gives an average of 3.75 pages a chapter. Some are longer; but a lot come out at 2 pages and a couple are only half a page long. Each chapter heading takes up half a page, so 73 chapter headings uses up 36 pages... plus the space wasted at the end of each chapter. I estimate, therefore, that the book is actually only about 200 pages long - and on a word count, somewhat shorter than one of our 100-page zines...

• **VIOLATIONS** by Susan Wright Pocket Books Voy 4 £4.50 Reviewed by Sheila Clark

The Hub, in the Tutopan system, is the

Information Centre of the Delta Quadrant, although Neelix tells them that it is a place to avoid - that people who go there usually leave only after they are working for the Totopans. Trade is by bartering information.

An agreement to trade maps of the Alpha Quadrant for maps showing wormholes in the Delta Quadrant falls through when the Voyager crew is knocked unconscious and the main computer processor is removed by the crew of the ship they have negotiated with...

I can think of only one word to describe this book. Boring. I nearly gave up several times, and had to force myself to carry on reading. Even washing the dinner dishes seemed more interesting.

For a start, I can't see Federation technology being in any way compatible with the technology of a completely alien race in a different part of the Galaxy, so for me it falls down right away on the point of credibility. In the second place, it is full of technobabble, both technical and medical. For example, from P 163 - "There are biogenic amines, such as noradrenaline, adrenaline, isoprenaline, and dopamine. Their chemical base is very similar to the nerve gas that was used against the crew." Why not just say "There are a lot of drugs whose chemical base... etc". There are a number of incorrect words used here and there - insure instead of ensure, for example - but I've got so used to mistakes like that in the professional novels that I mostly just shrug philosophically and ignore them. On the other hand, what can you say about the editing of a book which doesn't even manage to print one of the statutory disclaimers in full?

In fairness, the book does have its moments. Here and there there is an occasional chapter - or part of a chapter - where Ms Wright forgets the technobabble and actually writes an interesting segment. Unfortunately these moments are few and far between, and most of them (for me) come in the last third of the book. Without these, I'd give this book no more than 2 out of 10; because of them, I'll up it to 3.

• **GUISES OF THE MIND** by Rebecca Neason, TNG 27, Pocket Books
Reviewed by Annette Bohm

I read the first half of this book in about an hour or so, at a friend's - her little son had to read it for school! I thought it was a nice book, so I bought it to find out how it ends - but somehow I could not find the time to finish it. (Somebody dare say students don't have anything to do!) Almost a year later, namely last Monday, I finally had the time. I read it all over again, which turned out to be quite useful as I found some new aspects I had not seen the first time. Anyway, I liked it so much that I thought I might try to write something about it.

Joakal, King of Capulon 4, wants to join the UFP. Picard, Troi and two nuns are invited to attend his coronation, after which Joakal is to sign the treaty - but all of a sudden, the King is not interested in the UFP any more. Where he before had been friendly and welcoming, he is now rather aggressive and refuses even to speak with the representatives of the Federation. What nobody knows is that this is not the real King Joakal, but his twin brother, who wants revenge. By the time Picard and Troi finally realise this, it is too late; they are kidnapped and held prisoner.

This book focuses on Deanna Troi and her job as ship's Counselor. Rebecca Neason's characterisation of Deanna is really well done, but we don't get to see too much of the rest of the characters. The author puts much stress on beliefs and the different aspects of telepathy.

I found Mother Veronica to be a very interesting, convincing character. She has to face an aspect of herself she always refused to accept, that she is even frightened of. I enjoyed reading this book, and I can only recommend it, not only to Troi fans. I'd give it 10 out of 10.

• **TREK CELEBRATION 2** by James Van Hise. Pioneer Books 1994 166 pages, £9.99.
Reviewed by Edward Woo

Having become fairly familiar with this

writer's work I didn't expect anything new or radical, and it turned out that way.

To me it is just a reworking of ST history with the odd new elements that were current in 1994. The book is an A4 size format with about 16 chapters devoted to a particular topic.

The first few chapters recount ST history including a look at TNG. One chapter deals with each episode of the 6th season of NG. Other sections deal with Sarek & Amanda, alien cultures, the question of Q, the doctors in space and the women of ST. Two chapters deal in detail with the primary and secondary characters in ST and TNG.

Jonathan Frakes talks about ST in one section and speaks candidly. The music, props and effects are talked about if only in an overview, but with no real detail. The final element of the book looks forward to the 7th season and the film *Generations*.

Again, there's nothing new for fans who know ST history; just a few chapters in the book are worth reading, and would not justify the price of the book, though it does contain some nice off-screen photos of the cast, mainly from 1991 and 1993. Best to browse and see if you like it before parting with your money.

The copy I read was a library copy; I would not have bought it.

• THE MAKING OF THE TREK FILMS (Third Revised Edition) Edited by Edward Gross. Large Format Paperback. Illustrated b/w Pub. Bantam, 1995 £12.99.
Reviewed by Jay Stevensen

And here we are again. A third edition - "completely revised and updated" - of this "scholarly work" (their description).

I haven't seen the two previous editions, but although there's a lot of information here it still gave me a distinct feeling of *deja vu*. Even the illustrations (which admittedly include some nice candid pics of the Next Gen crew and a good full pager of William Shatner) are heavy on reproductions of

magazine covers or stills and shots that have been used before.

As long as fans keep on paying these books will no doubt continue to breed like You-Know-Whats. If you've bought a previous edition of this one you'll have to decide whether an "in depth coverage of the Undiscovered Country" and "over forty pages" on *Generations* is worth another £12.99.

If I'd bought a previous edition, I'd find this kind of "new improved" recycling pretty annoying.

• UNAUTHORISED AND UNCENSORED TREK CREW COMPANION - James van Hise and Hal Schuster Pioneer Books 1994 Illustrated £12.99
Reviewed by Jay Stevensen

It's a big fat book, over an inch thick, but the large print and overall design means that you get a lot of big fat empty spaces as well. 340 words per page is often a generous estimate. (The average IDIC letter page has about 700).

A rip off? Well, there's a rather shallow bio of each Classic; Next Gen and DS9 main character, followed by one on the actor concerned, made up of info and quotes garnered from other sources, so don't expect to learn anything new about your particular favourites. There are also some irritating inaccuracies, such as James Doohan quoted as telling the story of Leonard Nimoy refusing to voice Spock in the animated films unless "Uhura and *Chekov* were brought in" too.

Some of the nice full page illustrations of the actors are spoiled by bad colour reproduction. Hopefully you'll know who everyone is, because there aren't any picture captions.

To buy or not to buy? I'd advise checking out a copy in the shops or the library before making up your mind. Personally I'd keep my cash in my pocket!

• **INSIDE THE MIND OF GENE RODDENBERRY** Yvonne Fern Harper
Collins 1994 P/bk £6.99
Reviewed by Jay Stevensen

This odd, disjointed book reads like a love letter, and does Gene Roddenberry and Star Trek no favours by making them both out to be something they are not.

Let's be sensible. Gene was not some kind of visionary guru with a message for mankind. He was a television script writer who hit on a marvellous and innovative idea for a series, fought for it and finally got to see it made.

Star Trek is not the repository of timeless wisdom, or a philosophical system that can lead us to a better life. It is a sci-fi series that became cult, and has stayed popular because it combines attractive and believable characters with stories that try to have some contemporary depth. It may have had an impact on the lives of individuals, but that's not quite the same as having a "stunning impact on American culture", as Ms Fern claims.

We don't get to know much about Yvonne Fern except that she was a Franciscan nun for a few years in the sixties. The book details conversations she had with Gene during the last months of his life. Clearly at times he was rambling and confused. At other times he seems to be remembering things as he wished they had been, rather than as they were.

Although Ms Fern's deep affection for Gene isn't in doubt, most of what she has recorded here is New Age empty-speak, often shallow, frequently mawkish, and very far from being the "compelling study of one of TV's few original minds" that the cover blurb claims.

• **THE NEW TREK PROGRAMME GUIDE**
by P C Cornell, M Day & K Topping, Virgin Books £5.99 Reviewed by Leslie Moyes

When you go travelling, be it by plane, train or car, you need something to keep you going; then this book's ideal for you. It's the

latest in the successful programme guide series which has brought us great guides on Blake's 7, Dr Who, and The Twilight Zone, so it was inevitable that a Trek one would come out (Paramount's lawyers permitting :-). This guide, though, only contains all 7 seasons of TNG, 1 and a smattering of 2 of DS9 and a tiny piece on Voyager. Is the exclusion of TOS kind of biased, as if the authors dislike it? Strange!

Anyway, if you like an episode guide with some humour then you'll love this. It has categories from the episodes, such as the infamous Picard Manoeuvre, Riker's conquests (no surprises in guessing what that's about :-), technobabble (it's full of it! :-), Deanna underused (how many times Troi appears in a show!)

Dialogue triumphs. Classics like "My, what big ears you have" and the unforgettable "I am not a merry man!", to more serious stuff like new life forms, and strange new worlds; plus for DS9 the Ferengi Rules, and the hilarious Bashir's (failed?) conquests!

This book is tremendous and a terrific antidote to those highly inferior Boxtree scrapbooks, and apart from the hideous cover (don't let it put you off!), at £5.99 a snip, a highly recommended buy or die! 10 out of 10 - there is so much in it!

• **Captain Sulu's Audio Adventures**
Reviewed by Ken Mitchell

There have so far been three audio adventures of Captain Sulu published by Simon & Schuster Audio. They are all audio originals, that is to say that they have been created specifically for tape and CD and are not available in written form. I prefer the CD versions as you do not have to mess about changing tapes, plus the boxes are larger and more attractive and line up nicely against your Star Trek novels on the bookshelf. I found they were best listened to on headphones or in the dark for maximum effect.

The audio adventures form an interesting dilemma for continuity students. Are they to

be relegated to what Gene Roddenberry used to call Star Trek fiction as are the many Star Trek novels ? Or should they be considered Star Trek fact because they feature the voice of one of the original actors ? I prefer to think of both novels and audio adventures as Star Trek fact, after all if they are not selling us the real thing then they are ripping us off aren't they ? What follows is a praise of the three audio adventures so far released :

TRANSFORMATIONS by Dave Stern

Set some 20 years on from Sulu's command of the Excelsior we find the captain travelling solo in a new super shuttlecraft on his way to a diplomatic mission. Whilst travelling he is disturbed by dreams that he relates back to a disastrous mission the Excelsior undertook twenty years ago.

The mission was to investigate what was believed to be some ruins of the Shalakai empire on the planet Sigma Cameron IV. The mission leaves his science officer Flynn Conner in a catatonic state.

Sulu finds out that a lone archaeologist is on her way to the planet and begins a desperate mission to intercept her.

This production suffers somewhat from a lack of budget; only three actors including George Takei read for the story. However there are some nice sound effects and atmospherics, sufficient to raise the hairs on the back of the neck during the dream sequences.

The story is pretty much standard stuff; it's not bad but you know you have heard its like somewhere before. There's also a reasonable size plot hole - why exactly did Sulu choose to keep the dangers of Sigma Cameron IV a secret from Starfleet ? Overall not bad first effort.

6.5 out of 10

CACOPHONY by J J Malloy

Sulu and the Excelsior are sent to investigate subspace interference around the planet Stentor. Stentor's ruling and religious classes are aware of the Federation from a

first contact some years ago but chose to keep the existence of life on other worlds a secret from the general Stentorian public.

Stentor is a planet recovering from a dreadful war which has laid waste to most of the planet. The Stentorians are coming to terms with their folly by nurturing a culture of meditation, quiet and contemplation of the flute trees. They believe the trees carry the voices of their dead.

Unfortunately a malcontent with a gift for radio technology has intercepted alien broadcasts and is now transmitting them believing them to be the voices of the gods. The noise is driving the Stentorian religious class insane and is damaging the delicate flute trees. Sulu has to tread a delicate path between solving the problem and breaking the spirit of the Prime Directive.

This is a good story that is let down by poor presentation. The garbled rebel radio broadcasts quickly become very irritating as does the rebel himself, Ghazi, and his strange jive talk. Simon Jones (Arthur Dent from Hitchhikers Guide To the Galaxy) is wasted as a quirky Starfleet investigator. The story is made to drag by the constant repeating of points and George Takei's part is not big enough.

A nice idea that got lost in the production 5 out of 10.

ENVOY by LA Graf

The Excelsior is on a mission to deliver emergency medical supplies but Sulu is diverted by Starfleet command to a peace ceremony on Starbase III.

After years of war between the avian-like Creekeekee and the cave dwelling Denkai a delicate peace has been achieved. As a symbol of goodwill the Creekeekee leader's son is being ceremonially handed over to the leader of the Denkai.

Sulu quickly becomes disturbed when he finds out the young Creekeekee will lead a life of virtual slavery with the Denkai. Matters are further complicated by the arrival

of a warlike faction of the Denikai who are not at all interested in peace.

The LA Graf writing team's experience shines through here. It's a good story with lots of original ideas and a refreshing change to have the action set on a Starbase (I've never thought of DS9 as one). A big effort was made here with the two alien races languages and it works well, conveying a sense of strangeness and alienness. One point lost for somewhat glossing over what all the other starbase personnel are doing during the Denikai attack, otherwise excellent. 9 out of 10.

Here's hoping for more Sulu audio adventures, I would really like to see one actually set on the Excelsior with Grace Lee Whitney making an appearance as Janice Rand. I wonder if we might also see the further adventures of Uhura and Chekov post Generations?

• SCIENCE FICTION AUDIENCES:

Watching Dr Who and Star Trek John Tulloch & Henry Jenkins Pub: Routledge 1995. Reviewed by Jay Stevensen

To quote: "This is a book both for fans of the two series, who will be able to continue their debates in its pages, and for students of media and cultural studies, offering a historical overview of audience theory as a fascinating synthesis of text, context and audience study"

But don't let that (or the hideous cover) put you off. It's really a very good read with chapter titles like 'We're only a speck in the ocean: the fans as a powerless elite' and 'Out of the closet and into the universe: queers and Star Trek.'

Find out how powerless you are. Take a look at Gender and Star Trek fiction. Discover how many Starfleet officers it takes to change a light bulb (Star Trek at MIT). See yourself as others see you. ("Star Trek fans consist of lots of overweight women, a lot of divorced and single women... Kooks." - Charles Leershen in Newsweek, 1986.). Purists can skip the Dr Who bits, but you'll be missing out.

And they read this kind of thing as part of a media studies degree these days? I think I'll go back to full time study.

• PAGEMASTER (Columbia Tri-Star Video) 1995. Reviewed by Jay Stevensen

If you've only ever heard Patrick Stewart's measured delivery in Star Trek you'll be surprised (and delighted) with his voice-over in the animated section of this film. Stealing scenes here, there and everywhere he gives vocal life to Adventure (a roistering, macho, nautical type), one of the Books befriended by Richie Tyler (Macaulay Culkin) the over-cautious boy pitched into a world of animated classics by Christopher Lloyd's Pagemaster, where he is forced to confront his own fears to survive.

Whoopi Goldberg (as Fantasy, a Book with "attitude") and Frank Welker (as a lovable Horror) are the other two companions who accompany Richie on his journey. To complete the Trek line up Leonard Nimoy (in an all too short performance) voices a gentle Dr Jekyll and a delightfully over the top Mr Hyde.

The video also contains The Making of the Pagemaster, a TV presentation hosted by Christopher Lloyd, where you will get some (brief) glimpses of Stewart, Goldberg and (don't blink) Nimoy and Welker recording their voice-overs, and an interesting look at the painstaking work that goes into producing an animated film.

• STAR TREK: TNG INTERACTIVE TECHNICAL MANUAL £34.99 at Virgin Megastore. This application was run on a 75MHz Pentium PC with double-speed CD ROM and 8Mb RAM.

This is an absolutely fantastic piece of software for a TNG fan. I run it all the time and never get bored. I am very pleased they made this before scrapping the Enterprise sets because the Enterprise-D was a magnificent ship.

When the program launches you are prompted (by the Enterprise computer, no less) to choose either a guided tour or explore

on your own. The guided tour is conducted by Commander Riker (in voice only). He takes us through all the rooms included in the tour (Bridge, Ready Room, Main Engineering, Transporter Room, Sickbay, Ten Forward, Observation Lounge, Holodeck, and the Captain's, Troi's, Data's, and Worf's Quarters. Finally a view of the ship from the outside at any angle you wish.

You can interrupt the tour at any time and go exploring round the ship. If, say, you are on the Bridge and wish to go to Ten Forward, you can either jump straight there, or have the program take you there automatically down the Turbolift and through the corridors! Once in a room you can stand in a variety of places and pan around the room as you wish. Also, there are lots of objects lying about (PADD's, Tricorders, Phasers etc.) in each room some of which you can pick up and view from any angle. A nice touch is that wherever you are the Enterprise is always rumbling in the background (decent speakers help here).

Every time you go somewhere or look up a subject (like warp propulsion status display for example) the computer gives you a brief description on top of the text on the screen. Many of the rooms and on-screen specs have some behind-the-scenes info hidden with them, these can be accessed by clicking on a wee red box in the corner.

Anyway I have gone on about this enough, and can only say it is worth the money, but shop around - some places charge over £50 for it! Obviously the faster the PC (or Mac) the better, but the 8Mb of RAM is a minimum requirement. Marks - 10/10

• TV GUIDE SPRING 1995; STAR TREK COLLECTORS' EDITION - FOUR GENERATIONS OF STARS, STORIES AND STRANGE NEW WORLDS

Reviewed by Alan Stephen

Entertainment Weekly did a similar magazine recently. If anything this is better, with interviews with all the principal cast of all four shows, rare, never-before-published photographs, their private passions - Walter

Koenig's is collecting comic books, Brent Spiner enjoys classic comedians and can imitate Jack Benny, Buster Keaton and as a photograph shows, Stan Laurel.

What I enjoyed was a foreword by Arthur C Clarke and the truth finally revealed about the Classic episode The City on the Edge of Forever, as revealed by its writer, Harlan Ellison. If you ever get the chance to read the original story, which was available in a book called Five Science Fiction Plays (now out of print), or when the story is republished later this year, take the opportunity, and see that though the televised version was good, the unrewritten-by-other-hands version is better.

If you need other reasons to try and acquire this magazine, how about Al Hirschfeld's caricatures of all the cast of all four shows, or interviews with Bjo and John Trimble, or photographs of Armin Shimerman, Rene Auberjonois, Roxanne Biggs-Dawson and Ethan Phillips getting their makeup applied.

• TV GUIDE July 15-21 1995; STELLAR SUMMER SCI-FI ISSUE

Reviewed by Alan Stephen

This American magazine has followed Star Trek since its inception. This recent issue has Kes and Neelix on its cover and a group interview with the cast of Voyager, who in their group photograph all look like they have come off the comedy show Friends. They all sound like a fun bunch who get along very well, with good humour. I only wish this was reflected in their show. Robert Beltran admits to being the one who fluffs the most lines.

Also of interest to Star Trek fans is an interview with Leonard and Adam Nimoy. They speak about their estranged relationship that was caused by Leonard trying to carve out a career for himself and the damage that did to family life. They are now happily reconciled and enjoy working together.

X-files fans may like to know there is a 6-page X-files comic strip bound into this issue and a damn fine one it is too. Stefan Petrucha

and Charles Adlard have achieved in 6 pages what takes some people several issues.

If you would like any of these TV Guides, the dealer to contact is Lenore Levine's TV Guides, PO Box 246, Three Bridges, New Jersey 08887, USA. Send \$2 for the catalogue, which will take 7 weeks to arrive; the order usually takes 3 weeks.

Answers to TNG Quiz

1. 4; 2. Library Computer Access and Retrieval System; 3. 22; 4. 16; 5. Commanding Officer, Chief Engineer, Tactical Officer, Operations Manager; 6. Turkana IV; 7. 22nd century; 8. Sergy & Helena Rozhenko; 9. Aldea; 10. Subcommander Selok; 11. Omicron Theta.

Answers to Top of the Pops

1. See You Later, Alligator; 2. Rock Around the Clock; 3. Let's Twist Again; 4. I Can't Get No Satisfaction; 5. Goodbye, Yellow Brick Road; 6. Good Vibrations; 7. Please Please Me; 8. The Air That I Breathe; 9. The Sun Ain't Gonna Shine Any More; 10. Dancing Queen; 11. Heartbreak Hotel; 12. Mull of Kintyre; 13. My Ding-a-ling; 14. Blue Suede Shoes; 15. Sergeant Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band and the peculiarly illogical one was Winchester Cathedral.

For the sake of the young, the first verse of this song goes -

"Winchester Cathedral

You're bringing me down

You stood and you watched as

My baby left town", and the chorus has a lot of ooh-doh-deeh-dohing.



You can send your Zine Ads to either Janet or Sheila. We reserve the right to edit for length. We will print these ads in two consecutive newsletters only unless we receive an update. Each advert has the date of the newsletter it was last updated with.

"Age statement required" means the zine will be sold only to readers who are legally adults.

Zines referred to as K/S or "/" indicate zines with a homosexual element.

.

IDIC/ScoTpress (10/95) @ = new title

All zines A5, UK Price £2.50, unless otherwise stated, includes postage. Rest of Europe add £0.50 per zine.

IDIC LOG 16 - Kruge's family seeks revenge for his death on Genesis, and Kirk is their target. Few left.

IDIC LOG 17 - The Enterprise is on a mission to a planet whose inhabitants destroy everyone who contacts them; Kirk and the Enterprise are pawns in a vengeance

hunt; others.

@IDIC LOG 18: Dreams, a novel by Ruth King.

ENTERPRISE INCIDENTS 11 - Stories by Jay Stevensen. An alien entity takes control of the crew - but do they know it?; Kirk and Spock encounter a teacher... with a difference.

SODDE'S GAMBIT - a novel by Brenda Kelsey. Sequel to Fifty Ways, but does stand on its own. T'Pring has changed her mind and now wants Spock after all... Few left.

BLOW BACK by Nicole Comtet. A sequel to Return to the Source. T'Pring's hatred of Spock continues. Few left.

ENTERPRISE INCIDENTS 12 - story by Rosemarie Heaton. A series of errors by Spock shakes Kirk's confidence in his First Officer.

@ENTERPRISE-LOG ENTRIES 93 - stories by Rosemarie Heaton, Alan Boag, Linda Carter, Alex Blakeney, Pen Cramphorn & Jean Sloan.

ENTERPRISE-LOG ENTRIES 92, Kirk is charged with treason; Spock and McCoy are

stranded; an Admiral comes aboard for an inspection; McCoy is very ill and there is no other doctor available.

ENTERPRISE - LOG ENTRIES 91 McCoy decides to leave the Enterprise and join an emergency medical team; Kirk goes missing; Spock takes some cadets on a survival exercise; and other stories. Few left.

@MAKE IT SO 25 - stories by Anne Keown. Sandra Edge, Liz Aris & Christine Carr.

MAKE IT SO 24 - more stories about the crew of 1701-D.

MAKE IT SO 23 - An old friend of Picard's thinks Jack Crusher is still alive and Wesley just a baby; four new crewmembers turn out to be more than the crew bargained for; an Admiral discovers that Data has routinely been assigned to working 24 hours out of 24 on all his previous ships; a new crew member has dreams; Deanna is kidnapped; two stories featuring Spot.

MAKE IT SO 21, 22.

SALE

A4 zines all now sale price - £2.50 unless otherwise stated. Price includes UK postage; rest of Europe please add £1 per zine.

We have very few of some of these titles.

ATTUCLAC by David Gomm;
CAPRICCIO ITALIEN by Sue Jones;
CHOSEN BROTHER by Gloria Fry;
KINDRED SPIRIT by Gloria Fry;
LOVELY - A LITTLE PROBLEM by Brenda Kelsey;
ORCADIA by Joyce Devlin;
ENTERPRISE-LOG ENTRIES 82, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89; IDIC LOG 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15. **STAR TREK CREDITS** - a listing of the Classic Trek credits by Janet Quarton £1.50; **A CITY WITHOUT WALLS** by Alinda Alain £2; **GZAZARA** by Alinda Alain £2; **ESSAYS OF AQUARIUS** by Marion van der Voort £3.00. This one is not Star Trek but there are many similarities
TNG - MAKE IT SO 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14; IDIC LOG 14.

Scotpress. Visa/Access/Mastercard accepted but please add 5p per £1 (or part of £1) to your total order.

Foreign prices: Europe, add 50p per zine for A5 titles, £1 per zine for the others; Australia/Japan write to Sheila for prices, enclosing an SAE + IRC. We have authorised Bill Hupe to reprint and sell IDIC & Scotpress zines in America, Canada and APO/FPO outside Britain; send to him for prices, enclosing a SAE.

Send submissions of **TNG, DS9 & VOYAGER** material to Sheila Clark, (address above) and Classic Trek material to Valerie Piacentini. 20 Ardrossan Rd, Saltcoats, Ayrshire, Scotland.

BILL HUPE & PEG KENNEDY (10/95)

Authorised US agent for ScoTpress/IDIC, Deep Dark Press, Gloria Fry, Kay Stag, Janet Ellicott, Linda Wood, BSFR, PPPress (all of their zines have been turned over solely to us for publishing), Airwaves Special Editions, Naked Now (South Africa). We are also US agent for Horizon, the B&B Appreciation Society and Judith Proctor.

Many zines available. We are authorised to reprint the following zines; out of print ScoTpress zines; Stardate Unknown 1 - 5; R & R; Archives; Showcase; Masiform D; Quartet + 2; all T'Kuhtian Press titles (Warped Space, Obsc'zine) and many other classic out of print fanzines; many other titles available. SASE + 4 IRCs for a full list. We can accept personal cheques from the U.K. Please add 1.5% for bank charges. Bill Hupe & Peg Kennedy - Footrot Flats, 916 Lamb Rd, Mason, MI 48854-9554 USA. Our British agents are Lynne Buckley, 160 Fairway Rd, Shephed, Loughborough, Leics, LE12 9HG and Janet Ellicott (see below) - SAE to either for British prices.

Greycloud Services (8/95)

"Star Trek" and many other zines always available from Janet Ellicott, 43 Brooksbank House, Retreat Place, Morning Lane, Homerton, London E9 6RN. I agent for Bill Hupe and Peg Kennedy, Bjo Trimble and Bernice Russell, and publish my own zines as well as dealing in secondhand zines. Send me a large (at least A5) SAE for a copy of my list.

Order from Sheila Clark, 6 Craigmill Cottages, Strathmartine, by Dundee DD3 0PH. Please make cheques/POs payable to

New Enterprise (8/95)

NEW ENTERPRISE issue 2 is an A5 booklet with a colour card cover featuring gold foil inlay both front and back. The interior is photocopied and totals 80 pages. This is a limited run of 100 copies (each copy is numbered) and there will be no reprints. Includes news items, articles, adverts and fiction. Includes stories by Anne-Marie Flowers, Ann O'Neill, Sarah Lock, Lesley Turner and Isabelle Wood. Every effort is made to despatch orders within 48 hours of receipt. Prices (inc P & P) - UK. £4.00 (sent first class), Europe £4.50, USA/Australia £5.00 (sent airmail). Cheques, POs should be made payable to Ann O'Neill and should be in sterling due to the high cost of converting foreign money into sterling; wherever possible, cash should not be sent. Order from Ann O'Neill, 38 Stephens Firs, Mortimer, Reading, Berkshire, England RG7 3UY. Please enclose SSAE with any queries. There are a few copies of Issue 1 left, which will be sold on a first come, first served basis.

ZINES by Kay Stagg (8/95)

Genzines - Kirk/Spock orientated hurt/comfort. Please make cheques or postal orders payable to Kay Stagg and send orders to 33 Barrack Road, Guildford, Surrey GU2 6RU. Postage and packing included in the price (second class). Please ask for price if ordering from Europe ... include an I.R.C.

NEW ZINE - LIFELINE; GATHERING STORMS; THE SPIRIT OF ENTERPRISE; THE SILENT CRY; A MAJOR CRISIS WITH THE URSUS MAJOR MINERS. 138 pages, U.K. £4.80 inc P & P.

LEGENDS - stories by Waltraud Zucha-Glass and Jennifer Cobbing. 93 pages, U.K. £4 inc P & P.

Still available: SECOND CHANGE/A COLD BY ANY OTHER NAME (Previously appeared in Stargate and Stargate II) 75 pages £3.50. TROUBLES REVISITED/THE RIFT/ JUSTICE SHOULD BE SEEN TO BE DONE (previously appeared in Stargate III and Enterprise Log Entries 61 (ScoTpress)) 95 pages, £3.75. FREEDOM - full length story 167 pages £5. TOO MANY AVENUES - full length story £5.25. IN PERSPECTIVE - full length story 177 pages £5.25.

For other items, ie pens, pencils, notebooks, bookmarks, etc, please send SAE for

information. I have authorised Bill Hupe to reprint and sell these zines in America, Canada and APO/FPO outside Britain; send to him for prices, enclosing a SAE.

Merry Men Press (10/95)

Merry Men Press catalogue. This comprehensive catalogue contains complete information for all the publications from one of fandom's longest running and most reliable publishers. Beautifully designed by Shelley Butler and Kathy Stanis it includes excerpts from every story and novel published by Merry Men Press, thus making it an invaluable reference guide. Reproductions of art work from many of the fine covers done by fandom's best artists grace its pages. This is a must for every serious zine collector as well as an enjoyment for those just browsing. Please send \$6.00 US and 2 IRCs for when you want the current flyers to be added to the rest. The format will allow continuous additions of future flyers to make this a continuing catalogue. NB - all zines put out by Merry Men Press contain either K/S stories, art and poetry or other "/. Age statement required.

Currently in new release: FIRST TIME 42; SCATTERED STARS 7; WITHIN THE MIRROR 10; WHERE ANGELS FEAR (a K/S novel); PLAYFELLOWS 7 (multi-media '/') SASE for info. Merry Men Press, 274 Roanoke Ed, El Cajon, CA 92020, USA.

Gloria Fry (8/95)

NEW: BOOK OF PROPHECY - A Star Trek fantasy adventure: Volume 1 - in which Kirk, Spock, McCoy, Uhura, Chapel, Sulu and Chekov are snatched away to an alternate universe where magic rules. They must learn to accept their destiny as Heroes of the Prophecy and save a land from the Evil Lord and his minions. A4 format. 98 pages. Price UK: £5.00. Europe: £6 or £5+3irc's. Art includes stunning long-haired Kirk and Spock portraits by Maggie Symon. Short run of 50 T-shirts available M, L, XL. (Spock only) £11.00 each. Europe: £12 or (£10+4irc's.) If there's enough interest Kirk T-shirts next. 30 names minimum required. SHADOWS OF THE MIRROR (A mirror universe crossover novel taking place immediately after the episode 'Mirror Mirror.') Federation - The region of space around Halka shows signs of

instability, and members of the landing party have difficulties in coming to terms with their experiences in the mirror universe. Empire - Kirk, after a purge against all who oppose him, takes vengeance on his and Spock's counterparts. He embarks on actions which alter the course of the Empire and his relationship with his First Officer forever. A4 format. 124 pages. Price UK £6.00. Europe £7 or (£5+51rc's). Sterling only please. Prices incl p&p. 'Zines illustrated by Maggie Symon and Raymond Sless. Available from: Gloria Fry, 16 Frankfort Street, GLASGOW, G41 3XG Scotland. I have authorised Bill Hupe to sell my zines in the U.S.

SPACE-TIME CONTINUUM (8/95)

A bi-monthly Visual Media newsletter edited by Bjo Trimble. It is full of news and well worth having. Subscription Rates for 6 issues: USA \$15 Bulk mail, \$20 First Class. Make cheques/money orders payable to: Bjo Trimble. Bjo Trimble, P.O. Box 6858, Kingswood, TX 77325-6858 USA.

Foreign subscriptions: Contact the Subscription Agent nearest to you for local rates before writing to the U.S. address.

Canada: Star Trek Association of Regina, POB 36007, Regina, Sask, S4S 7H9 Canada.

United Kingdom Janet Ellicott, 43 Brooksbank House, Retreat Place, Morning Lane, Homerton, London E9 6RN.

Europe: Antje Freudenberger, Scharnebecker Weg 5, 2126 Adendorf, Germany.

Australia: Shayne McCormack 49 Orchard Road, Bass Hill, NSW 2197, Australia.

Orient Masako Noguchi, 1-9-1 1006 Chikko Minato-ku, Osaka 552, Japan.

(10/95)

FICTION FILE - an all fiction based newsletter dedicated to ST-TNG, Babylon 5, The X Files and Blakes 7. Dues £3 plus 6 stamped addressed envelopes (A5) for year's membership. For further information contact Lindsey Shelton, 94 Parkes Street, Smethwick, Warley, W. Midlands B67 6BH.

QUADRANTS FANZINE (8/95)

Issue two is now available, featuring indepth reviews of Star Trek Voyager, Generations and The Horizon Convention in February. Also we have a MASSIVE Klingons in focus section, containing everything you need to

know about this honourable race. Read about the current USS Enterprise, the American aircraft carrier CVN-65. You'll be pleased to find that Deanna Troi continues her open counsel in this issue. Plus the latest News on the state of Deep Space Nine and Voyager, ALSO prove your knowledge on all matters Star Trek and join our StarFleet Registry by passing the Academy entry test.

QUADRANTS FANZINE Available at a cost of £1.50 Make your Cheques or Postal orders payable to : Quadrants, and send them to: P.O.Box 1701, Leicester, LE4 0ZU, England.

10/95

K/S Zines - various. Also slash Hooker/Carrigan stories - A Touch of Blue £6; Blue Heat £5, and a Hooker/Romano story - Blue Murders £6.50. All prices include p/p. Make cheques payable to Mrs Barbara Grainger. SAE for lists. Age statement required. Mrs Babs Grainger, 268A High Street, Beckenham, Kent BR3 1OZ.

8/95

Outpost presents its first gen-zine. Original Star Trek stories, poems and artwork, most done by members. Printed in English. Send SAE plus 2 IRCs for details. Karen Hayden, Markstrasse 94, 47798 Krefeld, Germany.

Brenda Callagher (10/95)

DREAMS - a full-length story by Ruth King. This version was revised and rewritten in 1995 and differs from the first draft which has just been released by IDIC.

"I can afford to be patient. I have all the time in the world. And I will have my revenge, maybe not in your lifetime, Kirk... but I will destroy you." So vows Sepek at the start of a full-length story that has an Away Team from the Enterprise D travelling through the Guardian of Forever to prevent the destruction of James Kirk and his crew. 81 pages with photocopied cover. UK - £3 including postage. USA/Canada/Australia - £7 airmail, £5 surface. Europe/Eire - £5. (IMOs or bank drafts in UK sterling only), made payable to B. Callagher. Order from Miss B Callagher, 195 Radipole Lane, Weymouth, Dorset, DT4 0TQ.

Brenda Callagher (10/95)

AIRWAVES: a computer printed multi-

media zine, photocopied Issues 39 and 40 now available. Issue 41 out in December. SASE (or 2 IRCs) for 10 page comprehensive flyer of contents, prices. Submissions wanted for future issues. Submissions also needed for **THROUGH THE IMAGING CHAMBER**, a new "QUANTUM LEAP" zine - issue 1 contains standard leaps, issue 2 will feature cross-over stories where Sam leaps into characters from other television series. Stories accepted so far include Sam as Howling Mad Murdock (The A-Team), Jeff Randall (Randall & Hopkirk [Deceased]) and Jason (Mighty Morphin Power Rangers). Hoping to include Sam as Fox Mulder (X-Files). The main QL limitations (leaping within Sam's life-time) don't necessarily need to apply in this zine - he's journeying through the Imaging Chamber (in other words, the television) and could become anyone in any time. No limits to the length of story but no slash material, please. If there is enough interest, this publication could become semi-regular. Work can be submitted on disc PCW (3" - 180k or 3.5" 720k). Compatible with PCs using 720k, (but please store files as ASCII). Manuscripts (typed if possible, otherwise CLEAR handwriting) will be returned if requested, discs by return of post. Sent to: Miss B Callaghan, 195 Radipole Lane, Weymouth, Dorset, DT4 0TQ.

8/95

LET'S SEE WHAT'S OUT THERE 2 - a multi-series zine. New price, £3.95, plus 2 IRCs for overseas orders. Any profits to Childline. Orders and submissions for issue 3 to K Heintz, 23 Birniehill Ave, Bathgate, W Lothian EH 48 2RR

Zines by Pat Mitchell (8/95)

BROTHER'S KEEPER; a hurt/comfort genzine featuring Kirk and Spock. UK price, £4.50. **MOMENTS IN TIME**; an adult TNG zine of short stories set around the aired episodes. UK price £5.50.

The following zines are all 'slash' and require an age statement and confirmation that you understand and accept the "/" premise.

GEMINI: THE FLAME AND THE FIRE; the K/S sequel to Brother's Keeper. UK price £6.00. **A TOUCH OF TISH**; an anthology of new and reprinted K/S stories, all by Tish.

UK price £9.00. **PROMISES, PROMISES**; a B/D short story zine based on The Professionals. UK price £10.00. ***NEW* - SUFFER LITTLE CHILDREN**; a B/D novel based on The Professionals. UK price £10.00. All prices include P&P. Foreign enquiries please send self addressed envelope plus IRC for price. All zines available from Bill Hupe in the USA. Make cheques payable to Pat Mitchell and send orders to 38 Ashbourne Grove, Halifax, West Yorkshire, HX1 4JU, England.

Margaret Basta (8/95)

THE BEST LAID PLANS by Margaret A Basta, a post-Generations novel. Picard wants peace but doesn't get it; Beverly wants Jean-Luc but on her terms; Deanna wants her mother to stop matchmaking (but you know Lwaxana); Geordi wants to design new engines and Data wants to compose some music. The emphasis of this somewhat humorous novel is on personal relationships and their possible resolutions. 190 pages, UK \$25, USA \$21 priority mail. **ATTACHED MEANT** by Margaret A Basta, a ST:TNG post-"Attached" tale about what should have happened after Beverly and Jean-Luc enjoyed the hospitality of the KesPrytt. 150 pages, due July 1995. UK, \$23, USA 18 priority mail. Order from Margaret A Basta, 21811 Coolidge Hwy, Oak Park, Michigan 48237-2805, USA.

(8/95)

FEDERATION AND EMPIRE The original Federation and Empire series was published in Babel throughout the 70s. It garnered critical, professional acclaim including a Hugo nomination for the author. The first two stories were reprinted in Face Forward, vol 1 no 1 (May 1994), and the last two in vol 2 no 1 (May 1995). Finally, after twenty years - the sequels! The next two novels in the series, **BLOOD SEASON** (TOS/TNG) and **THE WIDOW TREE** (TNG) are currently available, \$18 each (USA), \$23 (foreign) + \$5.00 P & P for a hard copy, priority mail. They can be supplied on disc formatted to your specification (\$10 + \$5 P & P). Four more novels are in the pipeline - **TEARS OF A VULCAN** (TNG) due Dec 1995, **SENESH** (TNG) due May 1996, **THE BLUE TATTOO** (TNG/DS9) due May 1996, and the final one,

SOQUIEM (TNG/DS9) in Dec 1996.

E-mail inquiries/orders to:
ad095@detroit.freenet.org. Send cheque or
money order to Laura Sandler, 25207 E
Roycourt, Huntingdon Woods, MI 48070,
USA; allow 3 - 4 weeks for delivery.

Due South (8/95)

PARTIAL RECALL - a Due South novella
(112 pages) involving theft and a multiple
homicide, available from Elyse Dickenson, 43
Topfield Rd, Wilton, CT 06897, USA. UK
\$17.00, USA \$13.00.

STAR TREK DISK MAGAZINE. Two high
density disks crammed with articles, guides,
reviews, games, pictures, sounds and fonts.
The majority of the contents will work on any
PC and everything is easy to access thanks to
instructions on disk and paper. I hope to
make this a bi-monthly production and
would appreciate letters, questions and
articles for future issues. To order send a
cheque for £5 inc. P+P to C Jonkmans,
Finavon, Pepin D'or, Petites, Capelles, St.
Sampsons, Guernsey GY2 4GS.

CONVENTIONS/ADVERTS/CLUBS/GROUPS



Conventions



Janet receives a list of conventions world-
wide off the Internet. If you would like a
copy send Janet an Acorn or PC 3.5" disc
plus return post and packing, or, for a
printed copy a SAE 9"x6" plus an extra 25p
stamp. Please specify that you want the
Internet list of conventions.

FAN CONVENTION DIARY - a fan
production funded by voluntary
contribution. It is completely independent of
any fan group or organisation, and exists to
provide details of conventions and similar
events throughout the year. The diary lists
both Star Trek and other media conventions.
Send an SAE for a copy to Anne Page, 30
Fellowes Way, Broadway, Stevenage, Herts
SG2 8BW.

VIENNA CON '95: New date: October 20th to
22nd 1995, Venue: The AUSTROHOTEL,
Felberstr. 4, A-1150 Vienna, Austria. Guest
of Honour: George Takei, Richard Arnold,
other guests to be confirmed. For info send
SAE (IRC, Brit. stamps and money accepted)
to Karin Embacher, Krottenbachstr. 104/2/3,
A-1190 Wien, Austria.

CON RAD October 27-29, 1995. Universeal
City Hilton and Towers, Universal City, CA,
USA. Many guests confirmed including some

of the Voyager cast. Full 3 day registration
\$30. SAE for details to Con Rad, P.O. Box
31892, Seattle, WA 98103, USA. Tel (206)745-
6878. Email: cpl@rain.org

CONFEDERATION '95 Nov 4th & 5th, 1995
Starbase Apollo presents Aberdeen's first full
Star Trek weekend at the Douglas Hotel.
New screenings of Voyager and DS9 plus
TNG in Dolby Prologic and some classic ST,
episodes. Discos, parties, competitions, fancy
dress and Karaoke Trek are just some of the
events planned. Also, a large merchandise
area will be available. All profits to local
charities. For full details on registration and
reduced price accommodation send SAE to
Starbase Apollo/Confederation, P.O. Box
10076, Portlethen, Aberdeen AB1 4YE.

ASSIMILATION 18th-19th November 1995
Friendly Hotel, Milton Keynes. Registration
£20.00. Guests include Jon Pertwee, Tim
Gaskill and Terry Shuttlesworth. Send large
SAE to Stuart Banks, 77 Holyrood Avenue,
South Harrow, Middlesex HA2 8UD.

STAR TREK: THE EXHIBITION: The
London Group is organising a private party
for fans at the Exhibition at the Science
Museum on Saturday 27th January 1996,
from 7.00pm until midnight. Five hours
private viewing, canapes, cash bar. Tickets
£25 each until 31/12/95, £30 thereafter.
Hotel rooms available nearby. Tickets only
available in advance: no on-the-door. Please
send SAE for further details to Kim Knight,

38 Rochford Avenue, Loughton, Essex IG10 2BS.

STARBASE 96, February 2nd-4th 1996, Hilton National Hotel in Leeds. Come join us for your winter shore-leave. Guests to be announced. Video rooms showing Original Trek, TNG, DS9 and Voyager. An alternative non-Trek programme will be screened. Other activities will include disco, fancy dress, dealers room, auction and many competitions. More activities still to be announced. Registration is £40 for full weekend. Other registration rates available upon request. Hotel rates pppn. including full English breakfast and VAT are £29 twin/double and £35 single. There are a limited amount of single rooms - we can arrange room shares. Send SAE for further info. & registration forms to; Carol Looby, 152 Otley Road, Headingley, Leeds LS16 5JX.

IRECON 6, 6th - 8th April, 1996 (Same dates as **GENERATIONS II**), Mount Brandon Hotel, Tralee. Concept: In aid of local hospital scanning equipment for X-Ray department as part Tralee Arts Festival.

GENERATIONS II 6th-8th April 1995. Albert Hall, London. Guests (subject work commitments): Leonard Nimoy, James Doohan, George Takei, Walter Koenig, Robert Picardo. More guests yet to be confirmed. Tickets £10-£45 per day. This is run for profit by Stargazer Productions International Ltd. To book phone 01527-65655. For more information phone 0891-517037 (UK only). Calls cost 39p per minute cheap rate, 49p per minute at all other times.

WARP TWO The 41st British Star Trek Convention. 2nd to 6th May 1996, Cardiff International Arena. Videos, discos, auctions, games, dealers etc. Confirmed guests (subject to work commitments): Nana Visitor, Robert Picardo, Walter Koenig, Mark Lenard, Richard Arnold. Registration £35. For details send a large SASE to Warp Two, David Simons, 69, Merlin Crescent, Edgware, Middx, HA8 6JB, England.

VISICON 22nd-23rd June. Dublin City University Confirmed guests: Nana Visitor & Robert Picardo. The convention charity is

The Coombe Maternity Hospital.

CONSTITUTION III 5th to 7th July, 1996. Tollgate Motel, Gravesend Kent. Registration: Full £20, 5-16/disabled £10, under 5's free. Room rate £29.50 pppn for twin/double room. SAE for info to Tina Hewett, 115 The Brent, Dartford, Kent DA1 1YH.

CONTAGION, The Sixth Annual Scottish Star Trek Convention. Your only choice for the best guests and most fun in 1996. 13 - 15 July 1996 at the Glasgow Thistle Hotel (formerly Hospitality Inn). Registration (until 31/10/95) £31 adults & £16 for children. From 1/11/95 registration goes up to £36. Under 5s FREE. Accommodation available at Glasgow Thistle, Charing X Tower Hotel and Baird Hall to suit all budgets. Confirmed guest Richard Arnold. Others to be announced in November/December. All proceeds to charity. For full details contact: Contagion, PO Box 867, Rutherglen, Glasgow, G73 4HR, FaxBack: 0141-429 8223, email: contagion@awayteam.demon.co.uk, www: <http://www.cityscape.co.uk/users/fn45/startrek.html>

NORCON, September 6th - 8th, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal: Concept Charity Con for Children of Chernobyl to celebrate 30th Anniversary of Star Trek and review Star Trek Fandom in Ireland after IRECON (Sept 6-8 1991, Athlone). Guest, confirmed: James Doohan. (From an Antrim family background).

TEROK NOR (44th British Star Trek Convention. 22nd - 25th August 1997, The Radisson Edwardian, London. SAE for info to Terok Nor, 43 Eastern Avenue, Polegate, East Sussex BN26 6HG.

OTHER EVENTS

HYPERSPACE a scientific odyssey through parallel universes, time warps and the 10th dimension. A lecture by Michio Kaku at the the Science Museum Lecture Theatre on Thursday 12th October 1995 at 1300 hours, followed by a booksigning in the Dillons bookshop. Admission to the lecture is free

but by ticket only. For tickets please apply to: Dillons at the Science Museum, Exhibition Road, London SW7 2DD. Tel: 0171 938 8255.

MEMORABILIA '95: The NEC, Birmingham. 14th & 15th October 1995. Europe's largest Collector's Fair for Pop, Science Fiction, Comics, Television, Sport & Film Memorabilia. Entry 10am to 5pm. Adults £3.50, Kids £2, Family Ticket £9.

CULT TV 27th - 30th October, 1995. Haven All-Action Centre, Ormesby Road, Caister-on-Sea, Great Yarmouth. Guests include Michelle Forbes, Ed Bishop and Chris Carter (creator X-Files). Main Arena, Alternative Arena, 4 video rooms, Dealers' Hall, Self-Service Restaurant, Swimming Pool, Round the clock entertainment. Registration: £39. SAE for more info to Cult TV Productions, P.O. Box 1701, Peterborough, Cambs PE1 1EX.

THE FIFTEENTH LEONARD NIMOY CONVENTION: November 17th-19th, 1995, at the Stakis Victoria Hotel, Nottingham. A programme of films spanning the career of Leonard Nimoy and including many rarely, if ever, seen in Britain. Registration fee: £20. For form and full details, please send SAE to Carol Davies, 43 Lawrence Road, Hayes, Middlesex UB4 8QB.

SWANCON 95 - One day Dr Who and SF Convention. Sat Dec 9th, 1995. Dylan Theatre, Swansea. Guests - Jon Pertwee, Colin Baker, Dave Prowse, Lis Sloden, Jim Mortimore, Mervyn Haisman, Alisdair Pearson. Registration £15 for convention; £15 for Jon Pertwee's One Man Show; £25 for both. Details/Registration forms - SAE to Swancon 95, 28 Millbrook Street, Plasmarl, Swansea.

48 HOURS IN SPACE 29-31 March 1996, Comfort Friendly Inn, Hull. A sci-fi video extravaganza featuring a non-stop programme over 4 video rooms, a fully stocked dealers room and space theme disco on Saturday night. Full weekend booking £25, Saturday & Sunday £20. Other times are available and all age 14 and under are half price. Hotel rates, per room, per night are double £35, single £20, including VAT and

full breakfast. For a booking form or further details send SAE to '48 Hours in Space', c/o Hull Starfleet, PO Box 1701, Hull HU4 7YU. All profits from this event will be donated to the local Age-Concern and Hessele Dog Rescue charities.

ACCELERATE 96 - The 3rd British Quantum Leap Convention: 12-14 April 1996, Radisson Edwardian Hotel, Heathrow. A charity event in aid of Greenpeace and the Pediatric AIDS Foundation. **First Confirmed Guest, subject to work commitments - John D'Aquino.** Full three-day programme of non-stop QL entertainment. Registration £35 for full weekend, other rates available. For information sheet and registration form, send SAE to: Accelerate 96, 78 Sterry Road, Dagenham, Essex RM10 8NT or telephone 01827 64911 for details.

WHO'S 7 STRIKES BACK (WHO'S 7 1996) 26/27 October 1996 at the Ashford International Hotel, Ashford, Kent. Full registration £40.00 (until 30/4/96) then £45 - supporting £20.00. Guests, videos, games and lots of other things! Contact Who's 7 Strikes Back, 10 Filebrook Hall, Filebrook Road, Leytonstone, London E11 1AG, England. E-Mail: lexin@cix.compulink.co.uk.

VOYAGE 97 the 2nd British Convention devoted to 'Voyage to the Bottom of the Sea'. 25th-27th July 1997, Novotel, Sheffield. Reg: £30 until 31/7/96 then £35. A small friendly convention with a full programme. For further info and registration form send SAE to: Voyage 97, 15 Fullers Court, Exeter, Devon EX2 4DZ.

PERSONAL COLUMN

Would anyone in the south east London or Kent area like to either write or get together maybe for conventions etc. I am 29 years old and love Star Trek especially the Next Generation. Please contact Vanessa Thomas, 11 Ealdham Square, Eltham, London SE9 6BP

Hi! My name is Joan Madeley, I am 38 years old. I am looking for penfriends in the U.S.A. Star Trek, especially Classic, X Files and Babylon 5 are my favourite sci-fi programmes. Some of my interests are:

reading, writing, crafts and fundraising. My family and I love Bulldogs, (we have one), also my husband keeps fish. I will try to answer all. Mrs Joan Madeley, 24B Nelson Street, Stroud, Gloucestershire GL5 2HH.

Hi! Are there any fans out there in the Stoke-on-Trent area or near Leek who wish to meet up. I'm 21 years old and I like all Trek and I also like the X-Files. We could meet at Fantasy World in Harley. You can contact me at Michael Johnson, 30 Grosvenor Street, Leek, Staffordshire ST13 5NA.

Belgian Trekker, SWM 29, seeks penpals. My favourite characters are: CT-Spock, TNG-Data, DS9-Quark, and VOY-B'Elanna. Other interests include reading, music, drawing, and computers. Please write to Francis Dejonckheere, Weidestraat 115, 8800 Roeselare, Belgium.



SMALL ADS

Please note: All adverts are printed as a service to members and IDIC cannot accept any liability. Adverts should be a maximum of 10 lines - will be printed in one newsletter only.

Please only offer original items for sale - adverts will be edited if necessary. We will not knowingly print adverts for copied material which breaks copyright.

FOR SALE - Second hand zines and books in aid of the IDIC Guide Dog Fund. The zines include UK & US gen zines and a few K/S. SAE for list (please specify Guide Dog Appeal), to Sheila Clark, 6 Craigmill Cottages, Strathmartine, by Dundee DD3 0PH.

FOR SALE - Colour and b&w cartoons as seen in IDIC, Data Entries, Data Matrix, Database and The Body Electric II. Please send SAE to: Julie Evans, Flat 1, 31 Newsham Drive, Liverpool, Merseyside L6 7UG.

FOR SALE - Do you own a PC? Do you want a cheap, but good Star Trek program? Info Trek 1995 contains information to do with everything in Star Trek. It has text, pictures and sounds, and contains a free program/game. You need Windows 3.1, Write and Sound Recorder installed in Windows, 2Mb Ram and 16 or more colours. Price £2.50 including P&P. Send PO to Raj Badhan, 27 Kilbys Grove, Handsworth Wood, Birmingham B20 2ER.

FOR SALE - ST-TNG Companion seasons 1-5 edition. £5 + 50p P&P (cash preferred). Russell Witheyman, 12 Whistler Close, Tilgate, Crawley, W. Sussex RH10 5DX

FOR SALE - Brent Spiner's Ol' Yellow Eyes is now available across the UK and Europe under the new Infinite Visions label. We have the beautiful CD picture discs with booklet, cassettes and a range of merchandise. For more information and prices, please send a SAE or IRCs to Donna & Dawn Macey, 66 Albert Rd, Worcester, WR5 1EB, England. We are the only UK distributors for these products with official permission from Brent and Infinite Visions.

FOR SALE - Star Trek merchandise. Many rare items from and related to the original series. For list please send SAE to: Sheila Jarvis, 21 Jackson Close, Bebington, Wirral, Merseyside L63 8PB.

FOR SALE/SWOP - Customizable Alternate Universe also B5 and X-Files trading cards. Send wants list and swaps please SASE to Nancy Wilson, 97 Stamfordham Drive, Springwood, Liverpool L19 4XD.

FOR SALE - Collection of American and British slash/adult zines. Trek zines include Courts of Honor, Companion 3, Thrust, Choices and Mirrors of Mind and Flesh. Also selection of Blake's 7 and other media fandoms. Send SAE for sales list to Valerie Lowe, 13 Gunson Court, Miles Platting, Manchester M40 7NT.

FOR SALE: Still lots of K/S zines (Thrust, Way of the Warrior 1, NT, FT, DA, Nome, KSX2, Out of Bounds, and more), ST gen, Treblink, On the Double, some WG, HK, B7,

Prof's stories and MM. SAE and S1 or IRC for list. A. Maether, Parkstr.15, 32105 Bad Salzungen, Germany.

FOR SALE - Trading card singles for the following sets: 25th Anniversary 1+2, TNG Inaugural, DS9, Generations, Voyager, Masterpieces, Masterseries, TNG episodes seastong 1,2 and 3. I also have some special cards, sets, Panini stickers and TNG customizable cards, (limited and unlimited). Send SAE for lists to: Alexis Stokes, 26 Becketts, Hertford, Herts SG14 2AN

FOR SALE - Star Trek Trading cards, game card and POG's for 25th Anni. series I & II, DS9, Masterseries, TNG and Tekworld. Sets range from £6 to £10, Single cards 10p each. Also available chase/bonus cards. Send SAE to Mark French, 23 Colgrove, Welwyn Garden City, Herts AL8 6HY.

WANTED - New Season 4 Deep Space Nine & Season 2 Voyager episodes, in exchange for other science fiction & cult shows. For more information contact B. Morris, USS Renegade, PO Box 5425, Airdrie ML6 9BW.

WANTED - 2 Weetabix cards: The USS Enterprise (original) and the Klingon Bird of Prey. Must have stickers attached. Chris Goff. Tel: 01634 683913.

WANTED: Deep Space Nine - all Garak-episodes, especially the 3rd season. It will be months till we get it here and I'm frustrated! VHS/PAL, can be longplay. Pay for tape + postage of course. A. Maether, Parkstr.15, 32105 Bad Salzungen, Germany.

WANTED: The Adventures of Robin Hood (Richard Greene) episodes; Brother Battle and My Brother's Keeper. Shown on Bravo August 24th/25th. Please contact: Janet Quarton, 15 Letter Dail, Cairnbaan, Lochgilphead, Argyll PA31 8SX.

WANTED - A copy of issue 1 of NEW ENTERPRISE zine published by Ann O'Neill. Does anyone wish to sell their copy on to me or have a copy that I could at least borrow? All postage etc, will be paid. please reply to: J.D. Jackson, 7 Waite Close, West Green, Pocklington, York YO4 2YU.

WANTED - To buy: back issues of IDIC newsletters in good condition. Nos 1 - 25, 36, 37, & 39 required. Reasonable prices paid. Contact David Gallagher, 47 Broxholme House, Harwood Rd, Fulham, London SW6 4AA

WANTED - "Frill" Star Trek stickers 1, 8, 15 to 21 & 23 - ?, will swap against Panini stickers or trading cards. Annette Bohm, Kuhstrasse 35, 42555 Velbert, Germany.

WANTED - HELP! Did anyone audio/video tape Jonathan and Brent at the German convention or take any photographs? I'd pay all costs for any copies. Lynettia Attwood, 63 Warren Close, Tipton, West Midlands DY4 9PQ.

WANTED: William Shatner's "Where No Man Has..." Name your price. G Vandekerckhove, 78 Oostmeersdreef, 9800 Deinze, Belgium.

WANTED - Simple instructions on how to play the STNG Customizable Game. Any ideas sent to Nancy Wilson, 97 Stamfordham Drive, Springwood, Liverpool L19 4XD.

WANTED - Zines, K/S, especially those which are printed by Merry Man Press and Bill Hupe and Peg Kennedy. Also has anyone a copy of Gift Beyond Price which they would like to sell? I am willing to pay reasonable price. Write to: Mrs Joan Madeley 24B Nelson Street, Stroud, Gloucestershire GL5 2HH.

WANTED - Desperately searching for someone to swap/trade Voyager, Next Gen trading cards and Next Gen CCG. Write to: C Dejonghe, 18 rue Descartes, 93170 Bagnolet, France.

BUSINESS SMALL ADS

THE OFFICIAL STAR TREK FAN CLUB OF THE UK, PO Box 355, Bushey, Watford WD2 2NA. £14.99 for 4 magazines. Tel No. 01923-818495. Fax for membership information is: 01923-225885. People can write to Tim Gaskill direct via e-mail TGASKILL@delphi.com or post: PO BOX 6463, London, N22 4JU

or fax 0181-888-8008.

A WORLD OF YOUR OWN, 3 Lowther Street, Kendal, Cumbria LA9 4DH. When you are in Cumbria come and see our selection of Star Trek, Star Wars, Dr Who, Blake's 7 and other TV & film related merchandise.

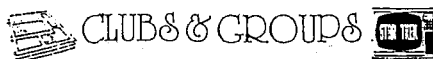
Big selection of Star Trek and other SF/FI merchandise. Send stamp for list of latest stock to Whos Who, PO Box 219, Banbury, Oxon OX16 9XV or phone 01421 354283 Monday-Friday 10am-5pm. Sat/Sun 6pm-7pm.

LIMITED EDITION OFFER - DATA'S HEAD (from Times Arrow). Limited to 500 worldwide; made with high quality latex; foam filled; realistic hair; highly detailed; skilfully hand-painted. £199.99. Further information from Fiction & Fantasy, 5/7 Park Street, Ashford, Kent TN24 8SW.

TRADING CARDS! Star Trek; Next Gen; DS9 and Voyager! Discounts for all 'IDIC' Club' Members. Sets: Star Trek 25th Ann, series 1 & 2 £6.25 each, (Normal retail price £7.50); N.G. 25th Ann. series 1+2 £6.25 ea (NRP £7.50); N.G. TV 'Season 1' £13.50 (NRP £15.00); 'Season 2' £8.00 (NRP £9.00); 'Season 3' New! £8.00 ; Generations-Movie £9 (NRP £11.50); Voyager Ser.1 £8 (NRP £9.95). P&P £1.50 1st set, each additional set add 50p. Payment to Mr S. Thomas. Send SAE for complete listings to S.B. Thomas, 'House of Cards', 76 John St., Abercwmboi, Aberdare, Mid-Glam, CF44 6BN.

MISC

OPEN HOUSE (not a local groups as such - and not just for "Star Trek" fans - but just what it says) 43 Brooksbank House, Retreat Place, Morning Lane, Homerton, London E9 6RN. Most Saturdays 12-4, sometimes longer. Contact Janet Ellicott as above 0181 985 0425. Please phone before turning up.



UPDATE

We have available a set of information sheets giving the addresses and brief details of all the British Star Trek clubs and local groups we know about, plus Star Trek related actor clubs in the UK and abroad. If you would like a copy write and ask Janet; enclose at least a 9" x 6" SAE plus an extra loose 25p stamp. (Note: new members receive a copy of this when they join IDIC, although we update it with the following info from each newsletter.)

Please enclose a SASE when writing to clubs for information.

NEW ADDRESS FOR QUARK'S BAR
ENQUIRIES: £7.00 UK, £8.50 Europe, £20.00 USA & Canada, for 1 years membership (4 issues). Send SAE to Vicki Tittley, 117 Dulwich Road, Kingstanding, Birmingham, West Midlands, B44 0EW.

FIB: Star Trek club for all generations, now in its 13th year. Quarterly newsletters feature especially reprints of US articles, news and reviews, space & science column, photos etc. UK price £6pa, Europe £8.00, rest of the world £10.00. Complimentary copy of previous issue on joining. Sample copy available for four 1st class stamps. Please send SAE for further details to Ros Liddle, 61 The Scotchill, Coventry CV6 2EW.

Siddig El Fadil (Alexander Siddig) Fan Club: THE DOCTOR'S EXCHANGE. Membership includes a membership package, including an autographed photo, plus a regularly published newsletter, Multi-Species Medicine. Dues are \$25 (U.S. funds), for North America, \$35 elsewhere. Club address: Joan Marie Verba, P. O. Box 1363, Minnetonka, MN 55345-0363 USA.

e-mail: verba001@maroon.tc.umn.edu
Dues are £22 in the UK and can be sent (UK funds only) to Karen Colohan, 3 Whites Close, Greenhithe, Kent DA9 9JL.

ROBERT PICARDO FAN CLUB, c/o Tracey Ledel, RNC, Box 373, 1277 Linda Mar Shopping Center, Pacifica, CA 94044, USA.

ROBERT DUNCAN MCNEIL - Announcing the formation of RanDoM Flight The Official Fan Club! Annual dues for the club are \$20, and include a minimum of six issues of the Flight Log, a membership packet, and videotapes and photos unavailable anywhere else. For further information, contact the membership Coordinator, Brenda Antrim, c/o RanDoM Flight, PO Box 3583, Abilene, TX 79604 or e-mail bantrim@delphi.com.

The Official Ethan Phillips International Fan Club (EPIC) is accepting applications. For further information, please contact Rande Goodwin, 19 Portman Street, Windsor, CT 06095, USA. Dues \$20/year US and Canada; \$25/year other.

THE ALIEN NATION APPRECIATION SOCIETY. UK: £6 for 6 n/ls a year. SAE for futher information to: The Tencton Planet, 110 Richmond Street, Coventry, CV2 4HY. US \$15. SAE to The Tencton Planet, 32-21 87th Street, Jackson, Heights, New York, NY 11369, USA.

LOCAL GROUPS - Update

If you know of a local group not listed please send details to Janet.

Most of these groups have monthly meetings. Please enclose an SAE when writing to them for details.

Aberdeen - Starbase Apollo, PO Box 10076, Portlethen, Aberdeen AB1 4YE. Meetings: Oct 15th, Nov 12th, Dec 10th, in Douglas Hotel.

Airdrie - USS Renegade is a local group, run from Airdrie in Lanarkshire. We have a membership pf approx. 50 of varying ages and backgrounds from the surrounding area. We are a club that coveres all areas of Star Trek and occasionally other Science Fiction and Cult Series.

We publish 4 club newsletters per year and our membership fee is £5 per year which entitles members to a membership card, 4

newsletters, club outings and more.

Meetings are held at Lilybank Community Centre, Chapel Street, Airdrie from 1.30pm until 4.40pm. Upcoming dates 1st Oct, 12th Nov, 10th Dec. (Dates subject to change. USS Renegade, POBox 5425, Airdrie ML6 9BW.

Aldershot - Nexus Crew Club 1701. Venue Connaught School, Tongham Road, Aldershot, Hants. Meets 1st Thursday of every month at 7.30pm. Other meetings, events, outings throughout the year/social club/discount card for merchandise/club library. Contact Chair 01252 313699 or club secretary 01252 313106.

Asford - Energize. Weekly meetings for the over 18s include video nights, role-playing games, games nights, laser battles, theatre/cinema trips, etc, etc...

The under 18s (Energize Cadets) do much the same sort of thing!

We also produce a monthly magazine/comic "Energize News" For further details contact

Over 18s	Under 18s
Dave & Tina Styles	Allen Tullett
117 Beaver Road	6 Southbourne
Ashford	Washford Farm
Kent	Ashford
TN23 7SG	Kent
Phone 01233 642687	TN23 5UB

Please note that "Energize" and "Energize Cadets" are clubs which are about get-togethers and meeting people. There is no postal element to the clubs at all. Therefore they would only really be of any interest to people who live in the Kent area.

Edinburgh - Starbase East Coast. We meet 10am to 10pm, at the Carlton Highland Hotel, North Bridge, Edinburgh for twelve hours of non stop Star Trek - the latest Voyager and DS9 episodes, plus favourite episodes of TNG and Classic. Admission: £4 adults, £3 under 15s who must be accompanied by an adult. All profits to the Conundrum charity. Next meetings 5th Nov, 17th Dec. Enquiries - SAE to Starbase East Coast, c/o Greg Lamb, 195/2 Great Junction Street, Edinburgh EH6 5LQ. Email: glamb@starbeco.demon.co.uk

Edinburgh - The U.S.S. **Claremont** is a weekly ST club which meets every Thursday night at the **Claremont Bar**, 133 East Claremont St, Edinburgh from 7.30pm. All the bar staff are enthusiastic Trekkers and enquiries should be made to Robin or Alex on 0131 556 5662.

At the club the entire collection of ST:TNG videos is available to be watched by members, as well as other forms of Trek. ST merchandise in all its forms adorns the walls of the bar, and the **Claremont Bar** is fast becoming Edinburgh's ST theme pub. In addition to this, a computer with all the latest ST games is also available for members.

Glasgow - The **Away Team**: Contagion (Away Team), PO Box 867, Rutherglen, Glasgow G73 4HR. Hospitality Inn 10.00am to 10.00pm, £6, (£4 under 14s). Next meetings: 15th Oct., 26th Nov, 7th Jan 1996.

Hull Starfleet - Beam down to the Comfort Friendly Inn (formerly the Vallent House Hotel on the corner of Analby Road and Ferensway). Meetings 12 noon - 5pm. Meeting dates: Oct 15th, Nov 19th, Dec 17th. For further info send SAE to Hull Starfleet, PO Box 1701, Hull, UH4 7YU or telephone (01482) 875208.

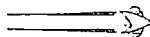
Liverpool - **Fek'lhr**. New larger venue at Cooper's Wine Emporium Bar, Kingston House, James Street/Strand, Liverpool 1. Episodes, videos, quizzes etc; £1.50. Meetings first Sunday every month; future dates 1st Oct, 5th Nov. For info, SAE to John Panter, 51 Church Rd, Old Swan, Liverpool L13 2AU (tel 0151 228 1567)

London - The **London Group**: Bi-monthly Trek group, 10.30am-7.00pm, Britannia Inter-Continental Hotel, Grosvenor Square, London W1. Next meeting 4th November, price £6.00. 1996 dates: 13th January, 16th March, 11th May, 6th July, 14th September, 2nd November - price £7 per meeting. Please send SAE for further details to Kim Knight, 38 Rochford Avenue, Loughton, Essex IG10 2BS.

Portsmouth - The imaginatively titled Portsmouth Starfleet - Sarah Rooke, Flat 3, 20 St Davids Road, Southsea, Portsmouth, Hants

PO5 1QN. Ring 0705 723892 (office hours) or 0705 341946 for details of events locally.

Sleaford, Lincs. - The **Picard Maneuver**. Come along and meet new friends and watch videos. All Trekkers are welcome. SAE for info to The Picard Maneuver, 17 Parkfield Road, Ruskington, Sleaford, Lincs. NG34 9HS or telephone 01526 833877.



Copyright IDIC October 1995. All rights are reserved to the writers. No attempt is made to supersede any rights held by Paramount, NBC, BBC, CIC or any other holders of copyright in Star Trek material. Articles should not be reprinted without written permission. Factual information may be reprinted with appropriate credit.

The opinions stated in this newsletter are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect those of the committee.

Send to:-

Janet - Subscriptions, renewals, all newsletter submissions on disc; all news, cuttings, adverts, merchandise info etc. for the newsletter; used stamps for the Guide Dogs.

Sheila - All Zine orders; postbag, articles & reviews for the newsletter; TNG submissions for zines (stories, poetry and artwork); used stamps.

Valerie - Classic Trek submissions for zines (stories, poetry and artwork).

Committee Addresses:

Janet Quarton, 15 Letter Daill, Cairnbaan, Lochgilphead, Argyll PA31 8SX, Scotland
Sheila Clark, 6 Craigmill Cottages, Strathmartine, by Dundee DD3 0PH, Scotland

Valerie Piacentini, 20 Ardrossan Road, Saltcoats, Ayrshire KA21 5EW, Scotland
Helen White, 61 Hill Street, Reading, Berks RG1 2NT

Dues UK £9.00, USA/Middle East Air \$25.00 (£15.00), Australia £16.00, Europe £11.00.

DATA PROTECTION ACT

This is a statutory notice as prescribed by the above Act. In accordance with the conditions

governing the maintenance of machine-readable records by non-incorporated members' clubs, IDIC must advise that the names and addresses of every member are held in a computer-readable format in order to more efficiently prepare and despatch newsletters. The information is used for this purpose only, and will not be disclosed to any other party whatsoever without the specific consent of the Data Subject (i.e. the member concerned). You should also be aware that you have a statutory right for your name to be deleted from the computer record and for your newsletters to be addressed manually.

Typing by Janet & Sheila; layout, initial edit and printing of masters by Janet; proof-reading and final edit by Sheila and Valerie.

Title design by Mark Mclean, title illos by Marysia Kolodziej, Helen White & Edward Woo.

Cartoons/Artwork by Jo Buckwell, Francis Dejonckheere, Julie Evans, Valerie Herd, Maureen Norton.

Printed by Urban Print, 57 Perth Road, Dundee.

Packed by Sheila's Chain Gang
1075 copies.

CONTENTS

Book & Video Reviews	79
Cast & Crew News	16
Con Ads/General Ad	92
Congratulations	72
Conundrum Guest Talks	52
Conundrum Reports	56
Generationd	62
Good, The Bad and the Boring	70
Hey, Look Who It Is	75
Latest Star Trek News	4
Lightspeed Report	59
Merchandise	13
Postbag	19
Question of Sentience A	66
Sci-Fi Con Report - Dublin	60
Society in the 24th Century	68
Spock & McCoy	73
Thoughts on DS9	63
Time and Relative Dimensions	
in Space	74
Top of the Pops	76
Top of the Pops Answers	87
TNG Quiz	77
TNG Quiz Answers	87
Why Vedek Had to Die	64
Writing For Star Trek	71
Zine Ads	87
Zines New Zines	78
Zine Reviews	78

